

## Coup in Fiji may change Queen's role

### Rebel colonel's move is challenge to authority

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Queen's future as the monarch of Fiji was being openly questioned after yesterday's second bloodless coup this year.

Amid outrage from Commonwealth leaders, and of sadness from the Queen herself, constitutional experts feared that she could soon be monarch of the United Kingdom and 16 other nations instead of 17.

Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, said that unlike the earlier coup on May 14 yesterday's move had involved the ousting of the Queen's representative, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the Governor-General.

Buckingham Palace confirmed yesterday that Ratu

Ganilau had been about to announce that the Queen welcomed the proposed bipartisan government which the coup was staged to prevent.

Constitutional experts said that this posed a far graver challenge to the Queen's authority than arose during the last comparable situation, the overthrow of the Prime Minister of Grenada, Mr Maurice Bishop, in 1983. During that crisis the Queen

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continued to be represented on the island.  
Former senior diplomats and Commonwealth sources predicted that Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka, the coup leader both in May and yesterday, would be strongly tempted to declare a republic, albeit at the risk of weakening his support among Fiji's Melanesian minority.

But there is also the unprecedented possibility that if Colonel Rabuka does not take this step the Queen might eventually choose to remove herself.

A highly authoritative source said that if all hope of a restoration of democracy were lost the Queen would receive advice to consider removing herself as head of state.

She would certainly not entertain such an idea in the short term. Her immediate anxiety would be for the Governor-General's safety and to avoid any action which might make matters worse. But if the military appeared set to retain control for the foreseeable future, her role would be a serious embarrassment.

The Queen is likely to hear views at next month's Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference in Vancouver. The leaders are expected to discuss ways of bringing economic but not military pressure on Colonel Rabuka's regime.

If Fiji becomes a republic it will be obliged to renounce or re-apply for Commonwealth membership. In the past every country which has been accepted after becoming a republic has been accepted except South Africa.

But Mr Peter Lyon, of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, part of London University, said yesterday that it was very unlikely that Fiji would be accepted.

The Commonwealth has four military governments - Ghana, Nigeria, Lesotho and Uganda - among its 49 members. Several others, including Bangladesh, are considered borderline by Commonwealth sources. But the sources said there would be no such tolerance of a military dictatorship in Fiji.

Buckingham Palace announced yesterday: "The Queen is saddened by news of the latest developments in Fiji coming so soon after the recent announcement about the formation of a caretaker government to work towards restoring democracy in Fiji."

The Palace was in touch with the Governor-General until shortly before the coup but then lost contact.

Mr Shridath Ramphal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, said the coup would be "condemned throughout the Commonwealth".

WASHINGTON: The American State Department yesterday denounced the coup and cautioned US tourists to stay out of remote areas of the Pacific island nation (AP reports).

The State Department urged restraint by all elements so that violence can be avoided and called for a broadly-based solution to the political crisis.

"We continue to support the efforts by the nation's only constitutional authority, the Governor-General, in this direction," the statement added.

## Rabuka pledges ethnic control

By Our Foreign Staff

Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka yesterday told ethnic Fijians that his second coup would bring them the political dominance he promised in his first takeover less than five months ago.

The army commander and Methodist lay preacher, said on national radio that he had reassumed executive authority over the interim Government headed by the Governor-General, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau.

Ratu Ganilau was reported to be at Government House and under no restrictions, but Dr Timoci Bavadra, the Labour Party Prime Minister, said that Colonel Rabuka had toppled his Indian-dominated coalition Government in May, was reported to have been arrested while driving towards Suva from his village of Viseisei.

Dr Bavadra's wife, Kuni, told the Australian Associated Press that about 50 soldiers had entered the couple's home in Suva, firing shots into the ceiling and harassing their children.

There were unconfirmed reports that two judges and the deputy publisher and legal adviser of the *Fiji Sun* newspaper, Mr Jim Carney and Mr Miles Johnson, were also detained.

Colonel Rabuka's broadcast came 30 minutes after armed troops seized newspapers and radio stations at 4pm local time. There were no reported injuries.

The Colonel imposed an immediate 8pm to 5am curfew and vowed that police and soldiers would keep law and order. He did not detail his plans to change the Constitution or indicate if he intended to call fresh elections.

Shortly before curfew fell, the centre of Suva was deserted except for patrolling soldiers.

The coup came after the country's rival political parties had agreed to form a caretaker Government with equal representation, in an effort to restore democracy. Ratu Ganilau had planned to make a national radio address about the caretaker Government and had released the text to the press before the coup.

"I am confident that the Royal Fiji Military Forces and the Royal Fiji Police Force will provide the necessary support to enable the caretaker Government to effectively sustain law and order in Fiji," his speech said.

## Khomeini's boy warriors, aged 10



## Tehran War Week

Iranian boy soldiers as young as 10 years old taking part in a march past during a military parade in Tehran's Azadi Square to mark the eighth anniversary of the start of the Iran-Iraq war.

The children are participating in a week of Iranian military parades and ceremonies designated as "War Week" (Hazarh Teimourian writes).

Subjected to constant preaching at their schools by the Shia clergy, the young in Iran are among the most ardent supporters of the Islamic revolution. Many rebel against their parents to join the *Basij* volunteer army and are readily enlisted for a short period of training.

Some are then sent to the Iraqi border or for active service against separatist guerrillas in the mountains of Iranian Kurdistan. They make up a sizeable part of the country's estimated half a million men under arms.

In the earlier stages of the war, there were many reports indicating that they were often thrown into battle ahead of the older Revolutionary Guards in order to clear the battlefields of mines. Many, some as young as 10 years old, were killed or maimed.

Eventually Iran appeared to have changed its mind about the usefulness of such tactics and greater emphasis was being placed on the proficiency of the regular Army, which was created by the late Shah.

## Thatcher says Europe must dictate arms talks

By Andrew McEwen and John England

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, yesterday gave a warning against unrealistic hopes for East-West relations following last week's announcement of agreement in principle on a superpower deal to eliminate medium and shorter range missiles.

Speaking after an international meeting in West Berlin of conservative leaders, she said it was substance not style that counted. Arms control could not be the only measure of Soviet intentions.

Conservative Party sources said she told the private meeting that the West should set the agenda and the priorities for the next stage in arms control.

Sources said that Mrs Thatcher had warned the congress, which was held behind closed doors, against hasty negotiations on short-range missiles. The Soviet Union should not gain the im-

pression that the West would let itself be beaten down in bargaining over them.

She said the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, genuinely saw the need for change and was courageously pursuing it, but he remained dedicated to Communism and Moscow still sought to change the world balance of power.

An equally firm line with the Soviet Union was taken by Chancellor Kohl of West Germany, who said that Western policy towards Moscow must be ruled by "realism not wishful thinking".

In a "Berlin Declaration", the congress of the International Democrat Union called for a worldwide ban on chemical and biological weapons and a reduction of conventional forces in Europe.

The leaders, including eight government heads, said that after a US-Soviet agreement on Intermediate Nuclear

Forces (INF), accords must be achieved on conventional arms, in which the Soviet Union had superiority. Further efforts must also be made to reduce armories of short-range missiles, as well as to reach politically-binding agreements on measures to build trust and security.

Mrs Thatcher also ruled out a Soviet proposal for a United Nations peace-keeping force in the Gulf, and at the same time cautioned against unrealistic hopes on East-West relations stemming from arms control euphoria.

"It won't work, so there is no point in pursuing it any further," she said of the UN force proposal, which was put forward by the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze.

Her views were far firmer than the line taken by Britain at the United Nations this week, where it has not dismissed the Soviet idea.

## US vow to sink Iran mine ship

From Nicholas Beeston

Dubai

The United States Navy plans to scuttle the captured Iranian vessel caught laying mines this week in the Gulf, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, announced yesterday during a morale-boosting inspection of Washington's flotilla in the waterway.

He said on the USS Hawes, a guided-missile frigate: "The ship will be destroyed. It certainly will not be handed back so that it can engage in further activities." A US Navy spokesman said it had not yet been decided when and where the vessel would be sunk.

The 1,662-ton Iranian landing craft, *Iran Ajr*, was strafed and hit by rockets twice on Monday by helicopters of the elite US Army "Task Force 160", when it was spotted laying mines in international sea-lanes 50 miles north of

Continued on page 24, col 1

## Emlyn Williams dies at 81

Emlyn Williams, the Welsh actor and writer, died yesterday at his London home. He was 81.

Mr Williams recently underwent an operation for cancer and been convalescing at home.

Mr Williams was proud of his Welsh roots and toured the world with his one man show based on the life of Dylan Thomas.

He rose to fame as an actor and writer on the West End stage with his 1938 classic, *The Corn is Green*, about a Welsh pit boy who goes to Oxford. It was revived at the Old Vic in 1985.

He was also known for *Beyond Belief*, his 1967 study of the Moors murders. His first novel, *Headlong*, was published in 1960.

Obituary, page 10

## Portfolio Gold - £20,000 to be won

There is £20,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio Gold competition - £3,000 in the weekly game and £12,000 in the daily because there have been no winners for two days.

Portfolio lists, pages 29 and 39.

## IN PART 2

## In a muddle

The Government's pension revolution is in a muddle. Family Money comes up with a solution to the problem. Pages 30-40

## Level pegging

Britain and Europe fought back to draw the fountains on the first day of the Ryder Cup golf match with the United States. Page 46

## Positive test

Sandra Gasser, who won the bronze medal in the 1,500 metres at last month's world championships in Rome, has failed a first dope test. Page 46

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## Boy kills family in gun spree

Marshfield, Missouri (AP) -

A 14-year-old boy went on a shooting rampage early yesterday and killed his parents, an aunt and three younger brothers before he was stabbed to death in a scuffle with his uncle, police said.

The boy, Kirk Buckner, apparently got up early and shot his mother, Mrs Jan Buckner, near the milk barn on the family farm in rural southern Missouri. His three younger brothers, aged 12, 10 and 15 months, were found dead inside the house.

The boy's father, Mr Steve Buckner, was later found dead in a cemetery about a mile from the house, and along the road to the home of the boy's aunt and uncle, Jim and Julie Schick, authorities said.

The first indication of the shootings, Sheriff Eugene Frazer said, came when Mr Schick, aged 36, called the sheriff's department.

Mr Schick was being treated in hospital for stomach wounds he received.

"We found him wounded in the abdomen. Lying in the hallway was Kirk Buckner. In the bedroom, Julie was shot dead," the sheriff said.

## Timetable set for sale of BP shares

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government's £7.5 billion sale of shares in BP - the biggest-ever stock market issue - has been fixed for 10am on October 28, when the 5 million small investors expected to take part will be able to apply for share allocations.

Dealings will begin on October 30 at 2.30pm, and quick profits are likely.

The City is predicting that the partly-paid shares will begin trading at a premium of up to 30 per cent, but the Government is hopeful that the new breed of small investors will ignore early price jumps and hold on to the shares to take advantage of the dividend payments and loyalty bonuses on offer.

Small investors will be able to pay for their shares in three stages, the final one not due until April 1989. The first instalment will be about £100. Investors will qualify for full dividend payments as soon as they receive their shares. In addition to free loyalty bonus shares on the basis of one for every 10 held for three years.

Overseas demand for the shares is also expected to be high, but small British investors will be guaranteed "meaningful" allocations.

Profit forecast, page 25  
Comment, page 27

## Pensioner told Ryan to stop frightening people

By Howard Foster

A 77-year-old woman escaped unhurt after confronting Hungerford mass-killer Michael Ryan as he stood holding a rifle and a pistol, an inquest jury was told yesterday.

Mrs Dorothy Smith, who is deaf in one ear, came out of her house near the Ryans' home and upbraided the gunman for disturbing neighbours with his gunshots. Unaware that the shooting had signalled the start of the Hungerford killings.

In a statement read to the coroner's court in Hungerford church hall, Mrs Smith said: "I said: 'Is that you making that noise? You are frightening everybody to death, stop it.'"

"He just turned his head to the right and looked at me. He had a terrible

vacant look in his eyes and a funny sort of grin on his face. He looked to me as if he was brain dead."

She shouted at Ryan that he was a "stupid bugger" before returning indoors. Minutes later, the gunman shot his own mother as well as a policeman and several other neighbours. Why Ryan spared Mrs Smith's life during their encounter, while killing so many victims without any provocation, is unexplained.

Ryan had smiled as he took aim and shot 14-year-old Lisa Mildenhall outside her home a few doors from Ryan. She described to the jury how she had looked him straight in the face as he stood near her with his rifle.

"He smiled at me. I fixed my eyes at his eyes and he then crouched down and aimed the rifle at me", Lisa said

in a statement. "I just froze by the front door. I just froze by the front door. I just froze by the front door. I cannot recall being hit. It must have been about four shots. I thought he was playing about and that it wasn't a real gun."

The second day of the inquest into the death of 16 people in Hungerford, including Ryan himself, began with a four-year-old girl's statements about how her mother, Mrs Susan Godfrey, died in Saverne Forest.

Hannah Godfrey told police that a car had been parked near her mother's while she, her two-year-old brother, James, and her mother had a picnic. A man had got out of the car, pointed a gun at Mrs Godfrey, and ordered her to strap the children into her car. Ryan had then taken the family's blue

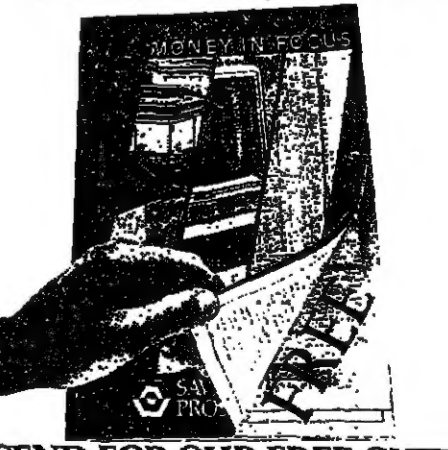
groundsheet and ordered Mrs Godfrey away from the car. The girl heard shots and saw Ryan drive away.

His second act of violence, the inquest was told, was at the Golden Arrow service station a few miles away, where he casually raised his rifle to his shoulder and fired at Mrs Kakabou Dean as she stood inside her kiosk.

A tearful Mrs Dean described how Ryan then walked into the shop and started firing. "I could hear his gun go click-click four or five times," said Mrs Dean. "I don't know if his gun jammed or he ran out of bullets. I said: 'Please don't, please don't, I don't know if he heard me or not.'"

The inquest continues on Monday. Inquest report, page 3

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## NEWS SUMMARY

## School pair challenge Hume

A legal challenge to the Roman Catholic diocese of Westminster's powers over school governors may change the running of the country's 4,415 voluntary aided schools.

Cardinal Hume has dismissed two diocese-appointed governors of the Cardinal Vaughan School in Holland Park, west London because they refuse to vote for the abolition of the sixth form. Backed by parents, the two dismissed governors have won an injunction stopping the governing body from meeting to ratify the proposals. They are seeking a judicial review of their dismissal.

Fr George Leonard, of the Westminster diocese, said yesterday that if governors could set aside the interests of the trustees who appointed them, "governors will be declaring UDI all over the place".

## Phone fee delayed Move on Hayward

Plans to charge telephone subscribers for the right to be "ex-directory" have been postponed by British Telecom after criticism by OfTel, the telecommunications watchdog.

However, a fee could be introduced as part of a package when Telecom starts charging for directory inquiry calls, possibly towards the end of next year.

Telecom announced the plan to charge ex-directory subscribers who refuse to accept calls via the operator £2 a quarter in a statement last month.

The European Parliament will be asked to review the case of Captain Simon Hayward. The Life Guards officer failed in Sweden on drug charges.

Mr Richard Cottrell, the Euro MP for Bath and Bristol, has tabled a resolution calling on Swedish authorities to look again at "all the evidence which has either been suppressed or ignored".

Captain Hayward was jailed for five years after being found guilty of smuggling 110 lb of cannabis into Sweden. His appeal will be heard on Tuesday.

## Child murdered

A murder inquiry was launched yesterday after the body of a child was discovered in a culvert containing eight inches of water in a recreation ground at Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

Dale Kowalczyk, aged 24, whose parents separated a month ago, lived with his father, Mr Frederick Kowalczyk, aged 27, an unemployed man, in Alexandra Street, Nuneaton. At 11.30 pm on Thursday he was left in the care of a child minder, Mr Dean Lampert, aged 21, in Clarence Street, while his father went out.

Mr Lampert telephoned police at 1.15 am yesterday to report the boy was missing. Dale's body was found five hours later by police at Pool Bank playground.

Last night a man was helping police with their inquiries.

## Alton to quit post

Mr David Alton is to announce his resignation as the Liberal chief whip today to promote a Bill to reduce the limit for abortions from 28 to 18 weeks.

The private member's Bill will provoke controversy within the party. Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, introduced the landmark Abortion Act of 1967, which gave women the right to free abortions up to 28 weeks.

Mr Alton, a Roman Catholic, is expected to be succeeded by Mr James Wallace, MP for Orkney and Shetland, his deputy.



## 'Ban partridge shoots'

The Game Conservancy has called for ban on the shooting of wild partridge this season after its annual count showed numbers to be very low.

Even without shooting, winter losses will mean a lower breeding stock next spring than this year.

The main reasons are said to be heavy late spring rain, particularly in eastern counties, and high losses of sitting hens to predators.

Percentage losses have doubled since the mid-1960s. Survival rates were better where farmers followed the recommended policy of leaving the edges of arable fields unsprayed with insecticides.

## Police to make random checks on court jurors Solicitors attack Hurd on vetting

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

The Law Society has criticized plans announced yesterday by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, to introduce a random police vetting system for court jurors.

The vetting system, designed to trap or discourage criminals from sitting on juries, will be in operation at more than 100 crown courts before the end of the year.

The Home Secretary said research in 1985 at 10 courts in England and Wales had shown that about 1,250 jurors a year, one in 24, could be tainted.

"The chances of one such juror affecting a verdict are not very strong, but it clearly risks reducing confidence in juries. The new checks will strengthen the jury system by

increasing the deterrent to false declarations."

However, the Law Society believes random checks could be seen as interference with the impartiality of juries.

"While our criminal justice system is adversarial, there must be no possibility of a defendant feeling that the balance has been altered in favour of the prosecution," the solicitors' governing body says.

The society is urging Mr Hurd to publish the survey on which his proposals are based, and to allow full public debate on the issue.

It says that debate is particularly important in view of the Government's plans to abolish the peremptory challenge under which a defendant

can object to up to three jurors without giving reasons.

The abolition would alter the balance in favour of the prosecution, says the society.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, the Association of Chief Police Officers and the National Council for Civil Liberties said they supported the vetting scheme, although the NCCL wanted precautions to protect innocent jurors.

Sir Thomas said problems had existed for a long time and he was glad steps were being taken to tackle them.

"If fears that people who are ineligible are sitting on juries are well founded, then it seems an admirable idea for the police to do spot-checks to find out the true position."

Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's home affairs spokesman, said that he backed Mr Hurd's wish to uphold the law regarding those disqualified from being jurors, but was concerned that random checks might undermine the jury system.

Details of the checking system are being discussed at the Home Office, but the checks will be made before a potential juror takes the oath.

Names will be taken at random from the jury panel drawn up by crown court staff in preparation for trials.

They will then be checked by police with the Police National Computer. Under the Juries (Disqualification) Act, 1984, anyone who receives a sentence exceeding five years in custody is barred

for life.

Anyone receiving a lesser sentence in custody or a suspended sentence or community service order is banned for 10 years, and anyone placed on probation is disqualified for five years.

Mr Hurd's plan comes a time when there have been claims in London of widespread attempts to tamper with the jury process.

Senior Scotland Yard officers have talked of organized gangs of jury "nabbers" and the need to give some juries 24-hour police protection.

Checks on the possible criminal background of potential jurors can already be made, with guidance provided by the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Association of Chief Police Officers.

## Bosun's boots 'alarm' failed

By David Sapsted

Mr Marc Stanley, the assistant bosun responsible for closing the Herald of Free Enterprise's bow doors, was such a heavy sleeper that he took measures to ensure colleagues woke him, the Dover inquest into the Zeebrugge tragedy heard yesterday.

Mr Stanley made an unexpected second appearance at the inquest to admit that he had slept through a call to harbour stations on the night the ferry set sail with its doors open.

Mr Terry Ayling, bosun, told the coroner's jury: "Marc was a very heavy sleeper. He put his boots in the doorway so any of us in the alleyway would know he was asleep (in his cabin) and go in and get him up. The boots were a back-up to the normal call. It was to let us know Marc was still in there."

When the ferry set sail on March 6, however, the boots were not in the door, Mr Ayling said.

During Thursday's hearing into the deaths of 193 people, Mr Stanley had refused to confirm he had been asleep in his cabin. Yesterday he admitted he had taken a break and had slept through the call to harbour stations.

Mr Leslie Sabel, the Chief Officer, whose certificate of competency was suspended for two years by the official inquiry and who was blamed for his part in the disaster, also gave evidence.

He repeated his claim that he had believed he had seen Mr Stanley approaching the controls to the bow doors when he left the cargo deck. He accepted that it could not have been the assistant bosun.

Today relatives of more than 130 people who died meet in Birmingham to discuss compensation claims and possible legal action against Townsend Thoresen.

The inquest will resume on Monday.



St John Ambulance cadets are to have a new look from today. The boys' haversack is to be replaced by a smaller hip pouch and girls will now be allowed to wear trousers or a black jumper and skirt instead of the traditional grey nursing dress. Chris Allender (left) and Samantha Rumbold (right), wear the new style, while behind them, fellow east London cadets Darren Weaver and Samantha Rumbold model the traditional uniforms (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

## Welfare review

## Moore warned against cuts

By Jill Sherman and Martin Fletcher

Opposition MPs and some Conservatives yesterday warned Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, against any attempts to dismantle or diminish the welfare state.

Their warnings came in advance of a speech to be delivered by Mr Moore this morning in which, as reported in *The Times* yesterday, he will argue that while genuine distress should be alleviated the wider role of the welfare state should be re-evaluated.

While carefully avoiding mention of any specific benefits, he will claim that the future aim of the welfare state should be to promote independence and self-reliance, not dependence on government handouts, with the state playing a far more modest role.

Mr Tom Clarke, a Labour

spokesman on social services, warned Mr Moore, who is seen as a possible right-wing successor to Mrs Margaret Thatcher as party leader, not to abuse his position as Secretary of State in his attempt for the leadership.

"I would very much regret seeing the Department of Health and Social Security being used as a pawn in the game to bid for the Conservative leadership."

"If Mr Moore, who is more Thatcherite than Mrs Thatcher herself, goes ahead with the proposals unopposed we may see an end to the welfare system as we know it which would be a major blow to the country."

Mr Archy Kirkwood, the Liberal spokesman on health, said the thrust of the speech confirmed his worst fears that Mr Moore had been put into

the DHSS to introduce the pure Thatcherite ethic.

"It seems to me as if Mr Moore is aiming for the high ideological right-wing ground and that will be disastrous in my view for the future of the welfare state."

Mr Charles Kennedy, the SDP MP and former SDP social security spokesman, said it was common knowledge at Westminster that Mr Moore had been reading himself into the job.

Though Mr Moore himself was saying nothing yesterday, Mr Anthony Newton, Minister of Health, denied there were any plans on the table for cuts in the welfare system.

Mr Newton, speaking at the United Kingdom Social Services conference in Glasgow, suggested that what Mr Moore was advocating was the same

policy that had led to the reforms enshrined in the Social Security Act 1986 such as better targeting of benefits.

Conservative MPs were for the most part suspending judgement, though Mr Robin Squire, MP for Hornchurch, and Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, MP for Kensington, expressed concern.

Government proposals to alter payments to people on the Manpower Services Commission's Community Programme could jeopardize the future of the scheme, it was claimed yesterday.

The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders said that plans to substitute the system of paying the local rates for the job with a weekly allowance of £15 on top of benefit entitlement would deter many people from joining the scheme.

## Militant activity alleged in poll

By Richard Ford  
Political Correspondent

The Labour Party is to hold a top-level inquiry into the alleged activities of members of the Militant Tendency in Bradford North during the general election. The seat was won for Labour by Sir Pat Wall.

Militant members allegedly collected funds and sold copies of the organization's newspaper while canvassing for Mr Wall, a founder member of Militant Tendency. They are also accused of holding top positions in the Bradford North election campaign and of setting up an office in the city to run a parallel campaign.

The accusations are made in a secret dossier sent to the party's national executive, which agreed on Wednesday to launch an inquiry into the claims. The investigation will be headed by Miss Joyce Gould, Labour's director of organization.

A dispute in the Bradford North constituency party led to the resignation of its chairman, Mr Ronnie Fieldhouse, one of those responsible for sending in the report on Militant activities. He said: "What happened there was a disgrace. They were burrowing into our campaign and we did not stand a chance of stopping them."

"On some days there were 300 to 400 Militants knocking on doors in the city."

The Labour Party said that none of the allegations concerned Mr Wall.

In the 1983 general election, when Mr Ben Ford, who had been deselected, stood as an Independent Labour candidate, Mr Wall lost to the Conservatives.

A meeting of the large unions tomorrow in Brighton will determine how Labour will select and deselect its MPs. Before the conference opens formally on Monday, decisions on voting for plans to extend the franchise will be taken by union delegations meeting in private.

Some party members claim that the national executive has ignored a resolution carried at last year's conference which said that to reopen the argument would be divisive and damage party unity.

The key to the system the party will adopt is almost certainly held by the Transport and General Workers' Union which, with a block vote of more than one million, usually has a decisive influence on the conference.

Its executive has decided to back the electoral college plan and it is unlikely that the delegation will take a different course.

Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, set himself at odds with many of his colleagues last night by embracing Mrs Margaret Thatcher's drive for wider share ownership. Although he continued to scorn privatization, Mr Gould urged Labour to support the concept as a way of distributing power.

## The fall of Oscar Wilde

The story of Oscar Wilde's life reads like a Victorian morality tale: years of arrogant triumph leading to the indignity, physical and emotional, of imprisonment.

Now a new biography of Wilde by the late Richard Ellmann, serialized exclusively in *The Sunday Times* magazine tomorrow, reveals how the demoralized and broken man coped with his years in jail.

The long-awaited book, which took 14 years to write, casts new light on the man who seemed to court fame and notoriety.

The magazine also presents previously unpublished pictures of the Queen Mother, while the Arts & Leisure section continues its exclusive extracts from Robert Lacey's new book.

As autumn opens the ski slopes beckon once again - but which of the hundreds of holiday companies and resorts are the best? *The Sunday Times* offers a snowflake rating to help you to decide.

## Corrections

Some editions of *The Times* yesterday wrongly attributed proposals on television advertising to the IBA (Independent Broadcasting Authority) instead of the IPA (Institute of Practitioners in Advertising).

Our report yesterday on the forthcoming wedding of Prince Ludwig Rudolf of Hanover omitted the fact that Prince Ernst August of Hanover won his claim for British citizenship in 1956 in the Court of Appeal, which dismissed suggestions of treason by him or that he took arms against the United Kingdom during the First World War.

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## Mines count cost of overtime ban

By Tim Jones

A British Coal director last night accused Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and militant union officials of "trading on the traditional loyalties of the average genuine miner" to cause disruption in the coal industry.

Mr John Northard, operations director, warned the militants that they would not be allowed to "drag the industry down without a fight even though they masquerade under the guise of union officials."

"Mr Scargill is seeking a charter for militants to cause disruption in the industry. Nothing in the code of conduct is directed against trade union activities."

Mr Northard's warning that British Coal is not prepared to concede further ground over its code of conduct came after the first week of a limited overtime ban which has been

## Post Office sticks to hours cut offer

By a Staff Reporter

The Union of Communications Workers, which is preparing to ballot members on industrial action which could cause chaos at Christmas, was told yesterday the Post Office would not budge from its offer to reduce the net working week by one hour.

Mr Ken Young, vice chairman, said: "We have no intention of conceding the union claim for a three-hour reduction. The cut we have offered will reduce the net working week of postal staff to 38.5 hours, compared to 39.1 hours for male manual workers in British industry."

The Post Office believes the union claim, which would cost £150 million a year to finance is based on a false premise. The maintains its members work a 43-hour week, compared to an average for industry of 40 hours. But the UCU includes meal breaks, to arrive unlike other unions representing industrial hourly

## The lasting appeal of Bernard Shaw

By Lynda Murdin

The London publishers who paid a record \$625,000 for a new biography of George Bernard Shaw by Mr Michael Holroyd are planning more big purchases, it was revealed last night.

The recent takeover of Chatto & Windus by Random House, the New York publishers, gives the company enormous purchasing power without any necessity, as in the case of Mr Holroyd's enormous work, to make a fast recomput.

"I hope we will make further major acquisitions. We have now got the resources to do so", Mr Simon Master, chief

executive of the Random House group in Britain, said.

Contrary to predictions that such a large advance could never be recouped, Mr Master said: "I think that there is every prospect that over a long period we will get our money back. We are talking about something that has an absolutely open-ended life."

"We take the view that we are investing in a unique literary property which will have a life of decades. This is not the same as publishing Jeffrey Archer and trying to get your money back in the first six months."

The first volume of three main works, entitled simply

*Bernard Shaw*, because, apparently GBS disliked the name George, will appear next year, priced between £15 and £20.

The \$625,000 is the highest paid in Britain for a work of non-fiction. Mr Holroyd said last night, Shaw would have viewed the remarkable deal, which left the book world in a state of shock, as "worth every penny."

Mr Holroyd, aged 52, married to the novelist, Margaret Drabble, added that sympathetic marketing schemes and pledges to keep the selling price down made him choose Chatto & Windus.

His work will encompass six

separate books: three hard-back volumes of biography, a bibliography, and two paperbacks, one on Shaw's life, one on his plays, both of which will amount to a "reorchestrating" of the main books.

In them, Mr Holroyd says a new picture of Shaw emerges, removed from the general image of a vegetarian, teetotal skinflint.

"Shaw was much more susceptible to attractive women than perhaps has been known. I have also discovered he was an extremely generous man, always giving money away, always involved with more than one woman - and these tended to be actresses."



# Hungerford inquest hears girl's story of how mother died

A four-year-old girl's story of how her mother became the first of Michael Ryan's 16 victims was read to the Hungerford inquest jury yesterday.

Hannah Godfrey told police that she had gone with her mother, Susan, and her brother, James, aged two, for a picnic in Savernake Forest, a few miles from Hungerford.

Ryan got out of a car parked nearby and walked towards them, pointing a gun. He ordered Mrs Godfrey, aged 33, to strap the children into her car and led her away, taking with him a blue tarpaulin ground sheet.

Shortly afterwards, the girl heard shots and saw Ryan run to his car and drive away. There was no sign of her mother. Eventually she unstrapped herself and her brother and they left the car.

Police found Mrs Godfrey, who had been shot 13 times, lying dead 75 yards into the forest. The tarpaulin was about 10 yards from her body.

Hannah was the first of several witnesses who gave evidence on the second day of the inquest on Ryan and 15 of the 16 people he killed on August 19.

Mrs Kakanb Dean told the court that she saw Ryan, a regular customer, drive into her filling station and fill his car and a can with petrol.

"I lifted my eyes from the till and I saw him just pointing the gun straight at me and he took a shot at me from there. Then he came into the shop and started shooting again 10 to 15 feet away. I hid under the counter. I could hear his gun go click, click, four or five times. I don't know if his gun jammed or he ran out of bullets.

"I said: 'Please don't, please don't'. I don't know if he heard me or not. He stayed there a few seconds and was standing holding the gun, but I couldn't do anything. When I heard his car engine start I got up and saw he was still looking toward the shop as he was driving.

Ryan then drove to his home in Southview, where he started shooting at random.

Mrs Dorothy Smith, aged 77, a neighbour, said in a statement that she went to investigate the noise and confronted Ryan, telling him to stop making a noise and frightening people.

She said that she had known Ryan for 20 years, but hardly recognized him. "I said: 'Is that you making that noise? You're frightening everybody to death. Stop it'. He just turned his head to the right and looked at me.

"He had a terrible vacant look in his eyes and a funny sort of grin on his face. He looked to me as if he was brain-dead."



Mrs Margery Jackson, shot after saving a neighbour

Mrs Smith, who is partially deaf, said that she then called Ryan a "stupid bugger" before being pulled to safety by a neighbour.

Mrs Betty Tolladay, aged 68, also shouted to Ryan to stop making a noise with his gun. He turned his rifle on her and wounded her as she stood in her garden. She dragged herself into her house and lay in her hallway for 5½ hours before help arrived.

Mrs Margery Jackson, aged 49, who lived five doors away from Ryan, said that she had watched him drive up to his house in his silver Vauxhall Astra at great speed.

"He got out and looked at me in a very vague frame of mind, as if he had been upset or angry and he went inside the house," she was about to go into her own home when she heard Ryan begin shooting. She rescued Mrs Smith before being shot in the back.

"He was jogging up and down. Quite a few bullets came into my home. He was running and jogging and firing at all times at any movement

**● I thought that he was playing and that it wasn't a real gun ●**

he would have seen. It was very quick fire."

She telephoned for her husband, but when he arrived, Ryan shot and wounded him and killed his workmate, Mr George White, who had driven him home.

Mrs Dorothy Ryan, the killer's mother, then appeared, and shouted to both Mr Jackson and her son before being shot. "He shot her in the back. I saw her go down," Mrs Jackson told the jury.

Mr Ivor Jackson, a bricklayer, aged 53, said that he realized that he had been hit in the chest and believed he was going to die. "I remained in the car making out I was dead. I have no idea how long I laid there."

Ryan's youngest victim, Lisa Milledale, aged 14, thought he was playing a game when he fired four shots into her body.

She said in a statement that she was playing with her friends in the back garden of her home in Southview when she heard a noise "a bit like a cap gun".

"I looked straight at his face and he smiled at me. I fixed my eyes at his eyes and he then crouched down and aimed the rifle at me. I just froze by the front door.

"He fired the gun and I can't recall being hit. It must have been about four shots. I thought he was playing about



Mrs Kakanb Dean, fired upon at her filling station

and that it wasn't a real gun. I thought 'what a mess' and turned and ran inside. As I was running I could still hear shots being fired in my direction.

"I said: 'Mummy, mummy, have I been shot?' She looked really shocked and then I realized I had been shot. There was a lot of blood and I was worried. I wasn't crying at that stage. I felt weak and fell to the floor."

Lisa, who was shot in the hip, leg and stomach, has since recovered.

Mr Robert Clements, aged 26, described how he and his family were out for a walk when a woman warned them that someone had "gone berserk with a gun", but his father, Kenneth, walked on towards the common.

"I felt I couldn't let him go up there on his own so I followed a few yards behind. A military-type person jumped out on to the track and lifted the gun and fired straight away. One bullet to start with.

"My father seemed to fold up on to his back. I stared at the person holding the gun and I looked at the fence and I thought I had to go over. There didn't seem any way of helping."

He saw Ryan walking casually, firing bullets into a police car which had arrived with Police Constable Roger Breton, who died as Ryan pumped 24 shots into the vehicle.

Sergeant Peter Ryan, who arrived in another car with Police Constable Bernard Maggs, said that Ryan saw them then crossing a playing field and a hail of gunfire came over their heads.

Alison Chapman, aged 16, told the jury that she was in her mother's car when they saw Ryan standing in the middle of the road, looking half drunk. He fired three times, hitting her mother in the throat and shoulder and Alison in the leg.

Mrs Jennifer Hibberd, aged 48, said that she was only 12 feet from Ryan as he stood with a rifle in one hand. "His face was sweaty with red blotches. I could see he had a smirk on his face, half grinning. He was looking down the road and at the rifle he had just used."

Ambulance woman Mrs Hazel Haslett said that she answered an emergency call to Southview and was reversing her ambulance up the narrow road when she heard gunfire and felt pains in her arm as bullets hit the windscreen.

She drove off and gave help to Mr Eric Vardy, who was trapped in his van with a neck wound a few hundred yards away.

Mr Charles Hoile, the coroner, praised Constable Breton and Police Constable Jeremy Wood, who were among the first police officers on the scene of the killings.

PC Breton managed to send an emergency call saying that he had been hit just before he died. PC Wood called for a fire arms team and a helicopter, set up a road block, evacuated picnicking families and also came under fire from Ryan.

Mr Neil Garnham, representing PC Breton's family, said the dead officer's action "was nothing less than an act of heroism."



Honorary degrees were conferred yesterday on Mr Bryan Forbes, the film director, (left), Mr Jeremy Isaacs, the founding chief executive of Channel 4, and fashion designer Zandra Rhodes, by the Council for National Academic Awards (Photograph: Graham Wood).

## Killer of unborn baby jailed

The killer of an unborn baby was jailed for life yesterday. Trevor Virgo, aged 21, attacked his girl friend "without mercy" when she was seven months pregnant and kicked her child to death.

Judge Hazan, QC, told him at the Central Criminal Court: "In the infamous history of the maltreatment by men of their womenfolk this case is at the highest. It is unsurpassed in my long experience."

Virgo, an unemployed warehouseman, of Keynes Court, Aitlee Road, Thamesmead, south London, was sentenced after being convicted under the Infant Life Preservation Act 1929 of killing an unborn child.

Only seven other cases have been brought under that Act in recent history. He was sentenced to concurrent terms of 16 years for causing grievous bodily harm to Miss Julie Wolton, aged 28, a social worker, and wounding her on another occasion.

The judge said Virgo had been jailed for four years in 1983 for smashing a hammer over the head of an 80-year-old man and robbing him of £60.

## Spot checks ordered into smear tests

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Spot checks on smear tests for cervical cancer were ordered by Mrs Edwina Currie, the junior health minister, yesterday to help to uncover any further batches which may have been wrongly diagnosed.

She is also expected to announce in November her plans for speeding up and improving a computerized system, based on the Swedish and Finnish models, to ensure that all women at risk are regularly screened.

The Department of Health

She called on all health authorities yesterday to introduce a system of double-checking a proportion of the four million slides examined every year after the disclosure that 911 tests in Liverpool had been wrongly diagnosed as clear.

At present only Oxford health authority is understood to operate a system of spot checks, on up to one third of all negative tests.

The Department of Health

early tests reveals 85 per cent of women at risk from cervical cancer. In Britain, 2,000 women a year die from the disease.

Health authorities have also been sent instructions on good quality controls for laboratories carrying out the tests.

A national computerized system is due to start operating next spring to call and regularly recall women for smear tests.

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## BA merges its tour division to stem losses

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Airways is to merge its loss-making tour companies with Sunmed Holidays, to form Britain's fourth-largest holiday company.

Enterprise, Flair, Sovereign and Martin Rooks are to become part of a new company owned jointly by British Airways and Sunmed, with overall control being given to Sunmed's managing director, Mr Vic Fatah.

The airline's director of marketing, Mr Jim Harris, said yesterday that the merger was the best solution to the problems of BA's holiday division, which lost £4.7 million last year.

No name has yet been chosen for the new company, but Mr Fatah said the existing names would continue, at least for the time being, and separate brochures would be produced.

There is no automatic link with British Airways' aircraft fleet. The company will buy seats on the open market for the best possible price. It is clear, however, that should the proposed merger with British Caledonian go ahead, the

## Airline relaxes limits on weight of luggage

Passengers flying with British Airways from October 1 will be able to check in with heavier bags and have less to pay if they are still over the weight limit (Our Air Correspondent writes).

Along with most other airlines it had insisted that the maximum weight allowed per passenger was 20 kilograms in economy, and 30 kgs in Club and first class.

Anything heavier was then charged an excess baggage fee based on 1 per cent of the first class fare per kilogram of luggage carried beyond the limit.

The maximum will be raised to 23 kgs for economy, 30 kgs for Club and 40 kg for first class passengers.

Repeated attempts by BA, backed by airlines in the United States, to persuade other airlines to introduce similar limits has failed and BA has decided to go it alone.

Any economy passenger will be able to check in one bag regardless of its weight, provided it does not look obviously overweight.

The "look and guess" test will be applied to Club and first class passengers who bring two suitcases with them.

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## 'Cleveland foster care suffered'

Acceptable foster care collapsed in Cleveland during the child sexual abuse controversy, the judicial inquiry was told in Middlesbrough yesterday.

Mrs Alison de Lacy Dunne, Cleveland's social services adoption and fostering coordinator, said an untenable situation was reached when every foster home was full.

She told the inquiry, in its fifth week: "I visited the ward twice and felt very strongly that a hospital setting was totally unsuitable for young children separated from their parents. It was like going back to the days of residential nurseries, which had long been recognized as damaging child care."

The inquiry, led by Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss, was told by Mrs Dunne that there were four instances when foster parents caring for sexually abused children, Dr Marietta Higgs, for another examination and she diagnosed further sexual abuse.

Mr Christopher Horne, the Langbaurgh area officer for Cleveland social services, said they were unprepared in experience and resources for the excessive number of sexual abuse referrals that arose from May this year.

## Child sexual abuse Demand for new legislation

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Social services' directors yesterday called for measures to improve procedures for dealing with child abuse cases.

The Association of Directors of Social Services called on the Government to immediately bring forward legislation on child care and family court reforms which were both omitted from the Queen's Speech this year.

The White Paper on Child Care Law proposes the introduction of an emergency protection order which would allow social workers the right to take protective action only on suspicion of neglect and also allow them to enter premises to investigate.

Although the procedures could make it easier for children to be taken away from families the reforms also call for a significant reduction in the time taken to investigate before care proceedings are initiated from the present 28

days to either 15 or eight days.

Speaking at the close of the United Kingdom Social Services conference in Glasgow yesterday, Mr Brian Roycroft, president of the association, said if the Government was committed to tackling child abuse it should reintroduce both pieces of law into this year's legislative programme.

Mr Roycroft, who is giving evidence to the Cleveland inquiry in the next few weeks, also pressed the Government to provide immediate resources for multi-disciplinary training for those involved in child abuse cases.

A recent survey carried out by the association showed that an estimated 5-6,000 new names had been added to child abuse registers across the country in the last 12 months but he said that for each case on the register another four cases of suspected abuse were

## Trial mother to fight for children

A woman released from the Central Criminal Court this week after a trial involving allegations of sexual abuse against four of her children and six others was abandoned, will be taking legal steps to have them returned (Andrew Morgan writes).

The prosecution withdrew charges against the woman, her father and her husband after her daughter, aged nine, broke down and was unable to give evidence. The children are the subject of an interim care order.

Under an injunction made by Mrs Justice Heilbrunn on August 13, the three former defendants are restrained from commenting on any ward-of-court hearings to the Press, which is also banned from reporting comments.

The woman has moved back with her father, a former lorry driver, and her mother in their council maisonette in south London. She has five children, four alleged to have been the victims of sexual abuse.

Her husband is believed to be living in south London, close to the homes of three sets of parents whose children, aged six to 10, were alleged to have been abused.

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# Baker ill-informed about funding, say angry universities

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

British universities have reacted angrily to a complaint by Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, that they do not do enough fund-raising.

Speaking in Chicago yesterday on the last leg of his week-long tour of the United States, Mr Baker singled out Southampton University for having a full-time fund-raiser, and said he would like more institutions to follow suit.

Professional university fund-raisers responded with calls on Mr Baker first to do his homework — universities have doubled their non-government income in the past four years — and secondly to work on their behalf in the Cabinet to win tax advantages for corporate donors similar to the wide range available in the United States.

BBC radio reported Mr Baker as saying that Southampton was the only university with a professional fund-raiser, but he says he was misquoted.

In fact Southampton has two full-time fund-raisers and at least 21 of Britain's 45 universities have their own development officers and trusts. Others have staff with part-time responsibility for serious fund-raising.

Miss Auriol Stevens, spokeswoman for the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, said: "The universities have doubled their earnings from non-government sources in the past four years.

"Mr Baker's remarks are deeply irritating. First, he is appallingly ill-informed and secondly, he seems to want us to go around with a begging bowl when we have been concentrating on earning our living in the market place by increasing revenue from consultancies and contracts."

The tax position in Britain lags far behind the US, says the development funds campaign director at Edinburgh University, Mr Danny Simson, who heads a full-time fund-raising staff of 10.

He is co-ordinating a universities' campaign to introduce more incentives in the next Budget for companies to donate to universities.

Corporate donors can gain tax benefits on one-off donations equivalent to only 3 per cent of their dividend — a pointlessly small proportion, in Mr Simson's view.

Tax benefits to the donor on covenants are restricted to gifts made over at least four years and few companies, he says, are willing to make such a long-term commitment.

In the US, the range of benefits to companies is vast and of enormous benefit to the donors themselves: there is no capital gains tax on the appreciation in value, since purchase, of a gift of property to a university.

Instead of concentrating on Southampton, Mr Baker could have mentioned Oxford University, where a full-time fund-raiser from America has been in office for nearly a year; Warwick, where a new hall of residence is opening this term funded entirely by non-government sources, and which is gaining nearly half its income from outside sources; the small University of Wales College in Bangor, where £2.3 million has been raised to support dwindling Government support for agriculture; or Surrey, where a music and dance centre is opening after a £1.5 million appeal, still continuing to raise funds for equipment; or any one of at least 20 other universities with a high fund-raising profile.

## Britain leads the field at TV festival

British television collected two top international drama prizes yesterday continuing its domination of the Prix Italia, the world's most prestigious broadcasting festival at Vicenza (David Housham writes).

The BBC won the £5,000 Prix Italia for television drama with Simon Gray's black comedy about Oxford academics, *After Pilkington*, produced by Keith Trodd.

Yorkshire Television won the £5,000 special prize in the same category with *Scot*, written by Geoffrey Case and set against the miners' strike.

On Thursday Channel 4 won the special prize for musical television programmes for *Behind the Music: perspectives on the music of Elton John*. *Behind the Music* and the BBC won the category for television programmes on ecological matters with *Vanishing Earth: Soil*.

## PC who stole on beat is jailed for two years

A policeman who stole from cars while on his beat was jailed for two years yesterday.

Police Constable Nigel Parsons was told by Judge Rutter at Cardiff Crown Court: "I have seldom heard such barefaced lies as those which flowed from you during the course of your evidence."

He said the crimes were more serious because they were committed by a policeman.

Parsons, aged 34, of Llys Newydd, Llanelli, Dyfed, sold some of the goods to colleagues at his station. He was found guilty of 14 theft charges, one of attempted theft and another of deception.

He was caught when colleagues became suspicious after he sold four second-hand cameras to policemen and gave another one away. He was followed on the beat and arrested after being seen taking a camera from a Volvo car.

Parsons, who denied the thefts, was commended twice during his 10-year career, stole from cars while he was stationed at Swansea.

Police Constable Paul Gamble, aged 32, of Orchard Avenue, Blackpool, who who turned thief while investigating a shop burglary was sent to prison for three months at Preston Crown Court yesterday.

Gamble, who is also a professional Rugby League player with the Springfield Borough club admitted helping himself to £19 from the till, a bottle of brandy and two packets of cigarettes.



Miss United Kingdom, Miss Karen Mellor (right) and Lizzie Webb, the television fitness expert, hobnobbing with Lloyd Honeyghan, world welterweight boxing champion, for tomorrow's national fun run organized by The Sunday Times.

## European links urged for privatized Rover

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Austin Rover should link up with European, rather than Japanese car manufacturers when it is privatized, the Italian Fiat concern has urged.

In spite of Austin Rover's collaboration with Honda on the design and manufacture of several models, Mr Cesare Romiti, managing director of Fiat, said the company should find a Continental partner to strengthen the European industry.

Asked if Fiat was interested in taking a share in Austin Rover, which the British Government is to sell off by 1992, Mr Romiti said his firm would prefer joint ventures on individual car models.

Mercedes-Benz was recently criticized by Iveco, a truck subsidiary owned by Fiat, and Leyland Daf for collaborating with Mitsubishi on a new range of light vans before seeking a European partner.

At one time, Austin Rover's long-term strategy included collaborating with Honda on car body design, with Peugeot on gearboxes and with Volkswagen on engines.

Mr Romiti's remarks reinforce the growing opinion among industry executives that as the EEC moves towards a single open market in 1992 with uniform taxes and no national barriers, car makers should improve their links.

Next year, Mr Graham Day, the chairman of Rover Group, will identify the options for the privatization of Austin Rover. Honda and Chrysler appear to have the best chance of a stake in the concern as experts believe there will be little interest from private investors.

## Scotland 'never more ready for independence'

By Kerry Gill

The prospect of gaining independence for Scotland has never been so good, Mr Gordon Wilson, leader of the Scottish National Party said yesterday.

With the Labour Party in a state of "paralysis" north of the border and the Alliance in turmoil, he said. However he added that members must abandon internal differences and concentrate on a campaign for full independence.

"We should abandon boring and time wasting battles over independence versus devolution or left versus right and direct all our energies into the practical politics of campaigning and organization, of winning and holding SNP support," he told delegates to the SNP annual conference in Dundee.

Mr Wilson, who admitted that the party had only made a "modest advance" at the general election, criticized Labour which, with 50 of the 72 Scottish seats, had failed to capitalize on its electoral success.

The Scottish people, said Mr Wilson, would soon tumble to the uselessness of a vote for Labour, and would turn to the SNP as the only party with real concern for Scotland.

The priority was to convince Scots of the "absolute primacy" of independence. "Until we substitute Scottish loyalty for British loyalty we shall remain at the margin of Scots politics", Mr Wilson said.

He said the party must be consistently and positively pro-Scottish and pro-independent.

He said he thought Argentina may be considering moves towards restoring trading links with Britain, particularly as the business community was pressing for such a move.

He found in discussions in Buenos Aires that the issue of the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands "was not being pushed in such a strong way. I was surprised at the degree of flexibility and much more relaxed approach being shown towards the United Kingdom".

## Pressure in Argentina to restore trade links

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Pressure is growing within the Argentine business community for the Government of President Alfonsín to restore trade links with Britain, according to Mr George Foulkes, Labour's spokesman on foreign affairs.

He has just returned from his third visit to Argentina since the Falklands conflict, when diplomatic relations between the two countries were broken. Mr Foulkes said the mood among ministers and officials in Buenos Aires towards Britain was more relaxed and flexible.

He told the conference that although the Government had finally amended the equal pay laws so that women could bring claims of equal pay for work of equal value, they were so complicated that few did so.

In three and a half years since the equal value law was introduced, only a handful of claims has been determined.

"The complexity of the law, both as to substance and as to procedure, is such that few legal advisers, and even fewer employers and trade union officials, can hope to understand what is going on."

A large number of claims was pending before industrial tribunals awaiting the determination by higher courts of the loopholes which employers and their advisers had been able to find in the drafting of the amendments to the equal pay law.

There were also two cases pending in the House of Lords and one in the Court of Appeal. The cases would determine "whether the equal value law has practical efficacy in remedying sex discrimination in pay in the next decade."

He added that in North America employers had good financial reasons to comply. If they did not, they faced class actions and multi-million dollar exemplary damages.

In the United Kingdom employers knew that if they contravened the relevant statutes they faced an industrial tribunal claim with a maximum award of £8,500.

He also said that English judges still tended to regard submissions on community law as a novelty to be treated with suspicion. Too many were reluctant to comply with their duty to construe community law purposively.

## THE BAR CONFERENCE

# Lord Lane backs abolition of right to silence

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, yesterday came out in favour of police calls for the abolition of the suspect's right to silence.

He also urged an end to trial by jury for petty theft and for the prosecution to have an increased role in sentencing.

Lord Lane, giving the opening address at the two-day Bar Conference in London, also attacked the Lord Chancellor's "unacceptable" proposals for reforming the civil courts, saying that they represented a takeover by the Government of the judiciary and seemed designed to "save the executive trouble and money at the expense of an efficient and independent judiciary."

On the issue of the suspect's right to silence, Lord Lane said that today's criminal was no longer the "Bill Sykes" type, with a bag marked "swag", usually illiterate and unable to give evidence on his own behalf.

Nowadays they "were be-

lieved to be something in the city" and were dealing in heroin and cocaine. "I doubt whether that type of defendant or any present-day type of defendant requires the protective shield which the illiterate Bill Sykes was given... the right to decline to give any explanation of his action without the jury being able to take into account such coyness as one of the factors in determining his guilt or not."

If the aim of the criminal law was to acquit the innocent and convict the guilty rather than "skilful handicapping of the race", reform might well be required, and the proposal to abolish the right to silence should be given serious consideration.

He asked whether the innocent accused person had anything to fear from having to give an account of himself. "The answer seems to be only very, very rarely, if ever."

Turning to trial by jury for petty theft, Lord Lane said that more than ten years ago

the James Committee had recommended that thieves be tried by a magistrate and have no right to elect jury trial.

"Still nothing has happened and still people complain, and rightly, about the delays in criminal trials. But the great British public cannot have it both ways. Either you put petty thefts where I believe they belong, in the magistrates' courts, or continue to incur unwarrantable expense and unwarrantable delays. The purse is not bottomless, nor is the supply of courts and judges." Ending jury trial for petty thefts seemed the obvious solution.

Lord Lane said that there was a "breath-taking confusion" of sentencing options now open to judges. Not so long ago their options were limited to a blind-over, fine, flogging, transportation or hanging, but now there was a huge range of options "hedged about with conditions of precedent" and it was often very difficult to know where in



Reports by Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

the hierarchy some slotted in. As a result, the Court of Appeal had come before it a "steady flow of legal sentences". These were perfectly understandable but need not and should not have happened and they cost time and money.

All this pointed to the need for the crown court judge or recorder to have greater assistance from prosecuting counsel, Lord Lane said. It was almost as important to get the sentence right as it was to get the conviction or acquittal

right, but at present, once a jury had announced its verdict of guilty, the prosecuting counsel felt "a warm glow of contentment" and took no further part in the proceedings. But "why should the judge not have the help of the prosecution at this stage if he requires it?"

No one was suggesting that prosecuting counsel would "thump the desk and demand the blood of the defendant or 25 years in jail. But he could give help to the judge on relevant guide line cases, or on information such as the defendant's means."

The Lord Chief Justice said that proposals from the Lord Chancellor's Department to merge the High Court and County Court into one system, presided over by a collegiate of senior judges headed by the Lord Chancellor, would lead to the executive encroaching far too much on the judiciary. "It would place the Lord Chancellor in an impossible situation and would have all the marks of a takeover."

## Conveyancing services

# Solicitors' fees have fallen by a third

Government proposals to prevent building societies and banks offering conveyancing services to their borrowers came under attack from a QC at the conference.

The prohibition was "frankly absurd", Mr William Goodhart, QC, said. "The main demand for building societies to provide conveyancing services would come from borrowers."

If building societies were able to do conveyancing for borrowers, the cost of the conveyancing could be added to the borrowing and repaid in instalments, he said.

There would also be some reduction in duplication of conveyancing work, in the way that many borrowers rely on the building society's survey rather than commissioning their own.

Mr Goodhart added that there would be "conflict of interest" but not as serious as the Law Society made out.

"A more serious problem is that if building societies took over a large proportion of residential conveyancing, the effect on some solicitors could be devastating."

That was particularly so in "smaller towns where legal services were provided by perhaps two or three firms, all

heavily dependent on conveyancing."

The Government is expected to publish soon the rules under the Building Societies Act 1986 which will authorize financial institutions to provide conveyancing services.

The competition from licensed conveyancers has already had a "dramatic effect" on solicitors' fees which had fallen by roughly one third, Mr Goodhart said.

However a "far more serious threat lurking round the corner" was that of competition from building societies and other lending institutions.

He also called for conveyancing in England and Wales to be speeded up rather than replaced with a house-buying system like that in Scotland.

The house buyer's nightmare of being gazumped should be tackled by such measures as computerization of local authority searches to cut delays from weeks to seconds.

Another measure being encouraged was the issuing of mortgage certificates by building societies, guaranteeing buyers a loan up to a stated sum before they start house-hunting.

The Scottish system, highlighted in a recent paper from the Government's conveyancing standing committee, was not an "automatic" solution to our problems and could not be imposed by law, Mr Goodhart said.

It had the benefit that conveyancing was quicker and gazumping "apparently unknown", he said.

However it depended on the ability of local authorities to answer inquiries more quickly than in England and on the willingness of lending institutions to commit themselves quickly.

There were also drawbacks: an unsuccessful underbidder might have wasted the cost of valuation and survey.

Since chains were impossible, someone wanting to move house had to decide whether to sell his existing property before buying a new one, in which case he risked temporary homelessness; or to buy first, in which case he risked owning two houses and the expense of a bridging loan, Mr Goodhart said.

"My own view is that the way forward is probably by speeding up our existing system rather than introducing a wholly new one."

The Law Commission was in the middle of an



Lord Lane also criticized the Lord Chancellor's reforms.

## QC urges 'Official' obstacles to equality

Tougher measures against international bank fraud were called for by Mr Peter Crosswell, QC, at the conference.

Banks offering the electronic transfer of clients' funds were at the same time providing a vehicle which could be used for fraud. Criminals could move the proceeds of their deception around the world in a matter of minutes.

"The thief, the drug trafficker, the dishonest employee (whether of a company or a bank) will attempt to put the proceeds of their crime in a safe jurisdiction as quickly as possible."

There were great difficulties in tracing and recovering money once it was outside the jurisdiction of the English courts, he said. Indemnities from English banks or insurance companies, backed by a counter-indemnity of the person defrauded, were sometimes effective in recovering funds.

Further action was needed. "Not enough attention is being given to the problem of tackling international fraud by the international banking community and by governments in a number of jurisdictions."

The expansion of fraud in the insurance market was partly due to the growth of the market itself, Mr Andrew Longmore, QC, told the conference.

Huge sums of money were paid in premiums and formed a constant temptation to the dishonest people. A second factor was the "surprisingly informality of the London market."

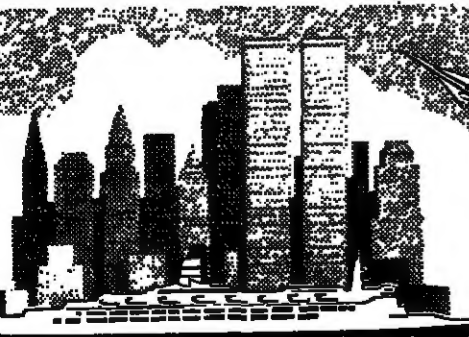
"Complicated risks involving great sums of money are often written on a single piece of paper."

He said that in other markets such as the United States much more would be written down and there may be fewer opportunities for fraud. Speed and informality, however, were sacrificed.

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## WORLD SUMMARY

## Both sides deny ANC contact

Johannesburg — The South African Government has denied that it is trying to arrange secret talks with the outlawed African National Congress (Michael Hornsby writes). The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, declared that the Government stood firm on its policy of not dealing with people who used violence.

The latest flurry of speculation about alleged contacts between Pretoria and the ANC has come from Harare, the Zimbabwe capital, where Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC president, and other leading members of his organization are attending an anti-apartheid conference.

HARARE: Mr Tambo denied the report, but said that an ANC member received a private approach in mid-July from a South African who said that a South African minister wished to meet the ANC (Michael Harnack writes).

## Paris press Glasnost stoppage phone-in

Moscow (Reuters) — A live international phone-in programme between the Soviet Union and three American cities in New York State is to be broadcast on Soviet and US radio tomorrow, according to Tass.

From 6 pm to 8 pm Moscow time tomorrow anyone in the Soviet Union will be able to call American citizens in the cities of Binghamton, Rochester and Buffalo, using a satellite link. Their calls will also be broadcast by a US commercial station. The subjects will be education, family, professions and social issues.

Police used tear gas to try to clear the court when it was invaded by 200 CGT supporters. Five people, including two policemen, were injured in fighting.

## Fresh blow for Kohl

Bonn — Chancellor Kohl of West Germany refused to comment yesterday after his troubled Christian Democrats were struck another blow when Herr Uwe Barschel, the Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein, announced his resignation after allegations that he used "dirty tricks" against his Social Democrat challenger in the state election this month (John England writes).

Although he protested his personal innocence, Herr Barschel, aged 43, told a press conference in Kiel that he was assuming political responsibility for the affair in which Herr Björn Engholm, the Social Democrat candidate, was followed by detectives investigating his sex life.

## Return of Calvi cash gunman tussle

Tokyo — An unknown gunman has made a second attack on the newspaper, *Asahi Shimbun* (David Watts writes). In the first incident, in May, one of its journalists was murdered.

This time, a masked man fired shots in a courtyard used by employees of the daily at Nagoya, in central Japan, and the police are seeking a link between the two attacks. It is already clear that similar shootings were used in both incidents.

No one was injured in the second shooting. As the gunman fled, he also fired at a nearby building.

## President to retire

Peking (AP) — President Li Xiannian of China, right, yesterday said he will retire from the Politburo Standing Committee, the pinnacle of party power, and wants to retire as President.

Mr Li, aged 81, has already said he wants to quit the committee, but has not commented before on the presidency, a largely ceremonial post. He is expected to be one of several elderly leaders to retire at next month's party congress.



## Reagan keeps a wary eye on that 'evil empire'

In the hubbub of shouted one-liners that now passes for a presidential press conference in Washington, one needling, insistent question finally caught President Reagan's attention as he attempted to slip away after announcing the "historic" agreement to conclude an arms control treaty: Was the Soviet Union still an evil empire?

"Well, I don't think it's silly," he said. Indeed he does not. And only three days later he told the world, from the rostrum of the UN General Assembly, that the yearning of the human heart were "putting the lie to the myth of materialism and historical determinism", that the dictatorship of party, class or vanguard was intolerable; and that the economies of oppressive governments would fall farther and farther behind, while their people became more restless and began to curse.

It was not quite evil-empire stuff — the Soviet Union was not mentioned by name. Indeed, Mr Reagan said he was intensely interested in glasnost, and hoped it would bring the changes, at home and abroad, implied by the meaning of the word.

## Washington View

By Michael Binoy

the elusive arms deal. Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, was sufficiently rankled to scrap his original speech and reply, with controlled but icy sarcasm, to the President's salutes.

His most telling shot was to invoke Dr Andrei Sakharov, whose speech on human rights in accepting the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize was quoted at length by Mr Reagan, to rebut the President's defence of Star Wars. "If we are to believe an academician in one area, why

shouldn't we believe him in another area — where he is really a qualified expert?"

But though the exchange gave an eerie impression of a sudden switch in traditional roles — the American speech dogmatic and predictable, the Soviet reply honed with finesse to the occasion — Mr Reagan and his advisers knew very well what they were doing.

They were out to dampen any rising euphoria. Americans, as Mr Reagan has seen to his cost, are given to wild swings of mood and opinion. The last thing he wants is a media-led stampede into spontaneous fraternization with Moscow, a national chorus of "Happy Days Are Here Again", or any return to the political vocabulary of that dread word détente.

Almost all Americans Democrats and Republicans believe they were "suckered" the last time round. True, the expectations of Nixon's détente were unreasonable, the assumption that Moscow would change its behaviour unjustified. But the let-down, therefore, was all the more bitter and the domestic fall-out all the more damaging to

Moscow — Tass accused the Reagan Administration yesterday of lying in contending that Moscow was delaying implementation of a United Nations-ordered ceasefire in the Gulf War (Reuter reports). Commenting on President Reagan's call for Moscow to co-operate, Tass said: "Lies and deception are still being used... The head of the White House made impermissibly gross attacks on the Soviet Union, falsely accusing it of tactical delays in implementing UN Security Council resolution 598..."

liberals and pragmatists.

This time the Administration is determined to get it right. In arms control, it insists on the most stringent verification, so that nobody can throw back in Reagan's face his old accusation that the Kremlin was allowed to get away with cheating. In other fields, including human rights and bilateral relations, the US now insists that deeds must follow promises. Moscow cannot be allowed to use a fuzzy good feeling to mask its bad old ways. All this demands patience and vigilance.

In this, Mr Reagan is helped by the European allies. Their welcome of the arms agreement is sincere but far from ecstatic. Lord Carrington voiced the military fears even as the deal was announced. European leaders do not want the US public overplaying a deal which immensely complicates the task of beefing up conventional defence.

Perhaps even Moscow understands Mr Reagan's need for caution. It has decided that only he can deliver treaty ratification by the Senate — and it has seen how even this President is now under attack by conservatives who regard the agreement as a sell-out. It knows that most of the UN address was for domestic consumption, a bit of flag-waving and a show of toughness in a forum which neither side seems to take seriously.

The very day after Mr Shevardnadze delivered his riposte, he was engaged in substantial discussions with Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, over the Gulf. It looks odd to the world. But the measure of trust between the two men has survived the polemics. Both sides knew it would.

## Power struggle in Washington

## White House fights Bill which could end Gulf escort role

From Michael Binoy, Washington

President Reagan will veto a defence appropriations Bill if it contains a proposal that could end the US escorts of reflagged Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf, the White House said yesterday.

Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, called the legislation, proposed by Democrats in the Senate, "highly irresponsible" and added: "Iran must be overjoyed at the prospect of passage as our friends around the world are dismayed."

He said the amendment, which was debated yesterday, "would pull the rug out from under the US and our friends in the Persian Gulf. It could have the ultimate effect of achieving the Ayatollah's purposes and forcing the US entirely out of the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman."

Wrangling continued in the Senate yesterday, and hopes of a compromise acceptable to

The Ministry of Defence has issued advice for merchant vessels in the Gulf, suggesting that a "safety area" could be set up for the crew and that rapid evacuation drills should be practised (Andrew McEwen writes). Ships were advised to contact the Armilla Patrol when approaching the Strait of Hormuz. Vessels should operate during daylight when near Kuwait, Farsi Island or the Ras Tanunrah area.

The Administration fided as the Republicans strongly opposed the latest Democratic moves to compel President Reagan to justify to Congress the naval escort of the reflagged Kuwaiti tankers. If the President did not satisfy the Democratic-controlled Senate, he would be obliged to halt the operation within 90 days of the legislation.

The Senate proposal is similar to the War Powers Resolution, which Mr Reagan has

refused to invoke, but would apply only to the ships involved in oil convoys. If the amendment to the defence authorization Bill is passed, the President would be given 30 days to report to Congress — instead of two days.

The administration however still believes this puts a dangerous time limit on the deployment of US naval forces in the Gulf. Senator John Warner, a former Republican Navy Secretary, denounced the amendment as "War Powers II" and has threatened to carry out a filibuster.

Senator Robert Byrd, the Democratic Majority Leader, said that "hostilities have now occurred", fulfilling conditions laid out by the War Powers Resolution. "Instead of the blunt instrument of the War Powers Act, this amendment will act as a scalpel. It will place emphasis on the convoy and escort of reflagged tankers, not on the overall US commitment," he said.

## Navy shield for Soviet ships

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A rare insight into Soviet maritime operations in the Gulf was provided yesterday by the trade union newspaper, *Trud*, which reported on life on board the three Soviet tankers leased to Kuwait earlier this year as part of Moscow's efforts to keep its oil shipments moving.

The Soviet Union makes little public reference to its naval presence in the Gulf, preferring to concentrate on attacks on the alleged build-up of American and other Western navies in the region.

*Trud* quoted the captain of the Soviet tanker Marshal

Chuykov, which was damaged by a mine in May, as saying that he was in constant contact with Soviet naval vessels on patrol in the Gulf. The Soviet Union has admitted having six naval vessels there, but some Western defence sources believe that this number may recently have increased to nine.

"Do our sailors help you a lot?" Captain Vyacheslav Mordintsev was asked by radio telephone from the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk. "Yes, very much," he replied. "The patrol ship, Ladoga, and the naval ship,

Fighting, constantly maintain contact with us. They are always ready to protect us from patrol boats with unclear intentions."

According to the Western sources, the Soviet naval presence in the Gulf includes three minesweepers, two frigates and an intelligence-gathering vessel.

Captain Mordintsev said that his most difficult episode came in May, after his tanker hit a mine and had to go to Dubai for repairs. He specifically avoided blaming any particular country for the incident.

## Wright savours ruling



Mr Peter Wright, the 71-year-old former MI5 counter-espionage agent, relaxing at his home in Tasmania yesterday after the Government had lost its latest court attempt to halt the publication by Heinemann of Australia of his memoirs, *Spycatcher*.

legal battle. Three New South Wales Appeal Court judges on Thursday gave the Government until Monday to take its case to the High Court or allow Mr Wright to release his memoirs in Australia through the Heinemann publishing company.

However, the Government yesterday moved to make a last-ditch attempt in the Australian High Court to stop publication of the book (Reuter reports from Sydney). It applied for leave to appeal within 24 hours of a panel of three judges turning down its plea to ban the book which has been the centre of a two-year

lawyers representing the Government also lodged an application at the High Court registry to extend the deadline. Court officials said this application, which sought to maintain the injunction on *Spycatcher* until the final outcome of the new appeal, would be heard by a High Court judge in Canberra on Monday.

## Anger at Peck 'slur' on Bork

From Michael Binoy, Washington

The White House yesterday angrily attacked Gregory Peck, the film star, for taking part in television advertisements against Judge Robert Bork.

Mr Martin Fitzwater, the spokesman, said: "The liberal special interest groups are producing slick, shrill advertising campaigns that not only purposely distort the judge's record, they play on people's emotions as only propaganda campaigns can."

"To say that Americans will lose their freedoms, as these advertisements claim, is patently outrageous and deliberately untrue. Gregory Peck ought to be ashamed."

After two weeks of nationally televised hearings, public support for Judge Bork has fallen slightly, while the numbers opposed to his confirmation as a Supreme Court justice have risen.

A poll suggested that 44 per cent now approve of his nomination, compared with 45 per cent when he began his testimony. But the undecided voters have joined the opposition, increasing it from 40 to 48 per cent. Among Democrats, according to a *Washington Post* survey, opposition to Judge Bork has surged from 56 per cent in August to 71 per cent now.

After a break on Thursday for the Jewish New Year, the hearings resumed yesterday with more American Bar Association leaders testifying for and against Judge Bork.

The hearings will continue next week, and will probably still be going on when the Supreme Court, now with only eight members, opens its new term on October 5.

## Cuba to free political prisoners

From Alan Tomlinson, Miami

About 350 political prisoners in Cuba are to be allowed to leave the island with their families soon for exile in the United States.

The group is the largest to be freed during years of sour relations between Havana and Washington. More releases are expected in the coming months in what is, apparently, an attempt by Cuba to improve its tarnished human rights image by ridding its jails of long-term inmates.

A Cuban official in Washington would say only that Havana wants to reduce its overall prison population to a minimum. The first of the 350 are expected to begin arriving here by the end of the month. They will travel with their

families in small groups, in what sources describe as an effort by the Cubans to avoid undue publicity.

Among them are many of the last of the older generation of anti-Castro dissidents who have spent up to 27 years in jail. Most are in their fifties to seventies, and they include *Los Planas*, who have refused steadfastly to join rehabilitation programmes as a condition of their freedom. Cuba has been unwilling to release its most obstinate dissidents into its own society, and deep hostility between the Castro Government and the Reagan Administration has, until recently, stood in the way of their release to the United States.

US officials are currently interviewing those still in prison to determine their eligibility for refugee status. Their release comes as a result of talks between President Castro and representatives of the Catholic Church in the United States, rather than any thaw in official relations.

A State Department spokesman said: "Although we welcome the news, we do not believe it signals a fundamental change in relations between the United States and Cuba."

Cuba has long been criticized for the stiffness of its prison sentences for political offences, and its refusal to grant human rights organiza-

tions access to its jails. This summer, however, one US human rights group and a number of other independent observers were allowed to make such visits.

One of them was Mr Wayne Smith, former chief of the US Interests Section in Cuba. It seems to me that the intention of the Cuban Government is to get rid of all their political prisoners," he said. "I think it has occurred to them that holding them really damages the image of Cuba to an extent that is far beyond any case for holding them."

Mr Smith estimates there may be 1,000 political prisoners left in Cuba. He believes they will all be released over the next six to 12 months.

## Dark-eyed Hollywood temptress dies

Los Angeles (AP) — Mary Astor, the dark-eyed temptress of *The Maltese Falcon* and star of dozens of other films in a career which lasted 42 years, died of natural causes at the Motion Picture Country Hospital in Woodland Hills early yesterday, aged 81. A spokesman at the hospital declined to reveal the nature of her illness.

Miss Astor, who had lived at the film industry's retirement home for some time, made her screen debut in the silent era at the age of 14. Her films included *Dodsworth*, with Walter Huston, *Prisoner of Zenda*, with Ronald Coleman, and *The Great Lie*, with Bette Davis, for which she won an Academy Award.

But she was best known as the scheming adventuress who killed private detective Sam Spade's partner in *The Maltese Falcon*, a 1941 John Huston classic which costarred Humphrey Bogart, Sydney Greenstreet and Peter Lorre.



Mary Astor appearing in a scene with Humphrey Bogart, her co-star in the 1951 John Huston classic *The Maltese Falcon*.

Miss Astor was born Lucile Laughton in Quincy, Illinois, on May 3, 1906, an only child. Her father, a German immigrant, was quick to realize the money-making potential of his beautiful daughter. He moved the family to Chicago, where Lucile took drama lessons and then to New York and Hollywood. She was given a contract — and a new name — in 1920.

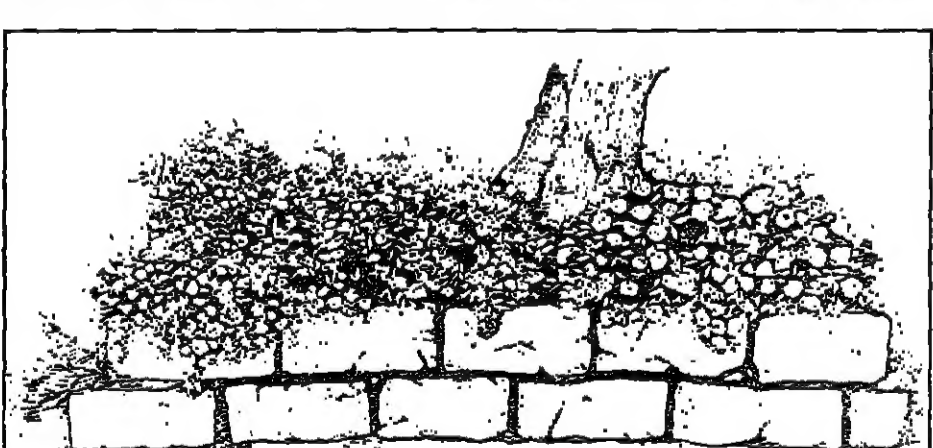
to sound in 1929, Miss Astor found herself out of work for 10 months. "I was fired," she recalled later. "I was a silent actress and I had made a bad sound test. So I decided I had better get some stage training. I did a play with Edward Everett Horton, and in five weeks I was back in pictures."

In 1949, Miss Astor was placed in a treatment centre for alcoholics. In 1951, police reported she had attempted suicide by taking an overdose of sleeping pills, but third overdose in two years, but she insisted it was an accident. In 1953, she had to turn to the Motion Picture Relief Fund to help pay her bills.

She said her recovery was thanks to the Rev Peter Ciklik, a priest-psychologist based at Loyola University in Los Angeles. He encouraged her to write down her experiences as part of her therapy, and this formed the basis of her autobiography in 1959.

Obituary, page 10

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# Gorbachov follows the Lenin line and allows private shops

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet Union is to get its first privately-run shops for more than 60 years under the latest economic reform designed to improve the sorry lot of the average Soviet consumer and extend the limited legalization of private enterprise introduced last May.

A communiqué issued by the Politburo said that the decision to sanction the setting up of the new shops had been approved as part of a package aimed "for the better organization of sales of goods manufactured by co-operatives and citizens engaged in individual labour."

The shops will be the first private trading outlets in the communist state since the days of Lenin's New Economic Policy, when small private shops flourished until they were all shut down by Stalin who permitted only shops run by the state.

According to the Politburo, Soviet citizens will now be free to rent shops and kiosks and use space allotted to them in some of the state-run stores in

order to sell their produce. At present, the only outlets for selling goods produced under the new individual labour law have been markets.

The measure was seen as a significant expansion of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's attempts to streamline the Soviet economy by increasing personal initiative. It follows the example set in some parts of Eastern Europe where small private outlets are tolerated in order to compensate for the poor quality of goods and frequent shortages in the state-run shops.

The communiqué, released after the Politburo's regular weekly meeting did not specify what type of goods would be sold in the new shops or how many of them will be permitted to open. Western economic experts expect them to sell mainly handicrafts, home-made clothing and foodstuffs.

The decision to allow private enterprise to return to the retail trade, which is notorious for its inefficiency and the

studied indifference of sales staff, was warmly welcomed yesterday by many ordinary Muscovites who expressed the hope that they would encourage better service all-round.

"The new co-operative-run restaurants in Moscow have already shown what can be done by a different way of running things," one Moscow housewife said. "But the problem is that there is not enough of them. I am afraid that the same could happen with the shops."

The law to legitimize certain forms of individual enterprise and encourage co-operative ownership has run into stiff bureaucratic resistance, with local officials often imposing impossible conditions on people seeking to take advantage of it. A number of co-operatives have been criticized in the official media for over-charging.

Soviet polls have shown that millions of citizens would like to take advantage of the new law and set up private businesses.

## Moscow hits at Soviet abortion rate

Moscow — The Soviet Union's exceptionally high abortion rate was strongly criticized by *Izvestia* (Christopher Walker writes).

It called for the mass provision of contraceptives and a proper family planning service to overcome the problem.

*Nedelnya*, the daily's weekly supplement, disclosed that in 1978-79 the annual abortion rate was 102.4 for every 1,000 Soviet women of child-bearing age, compared with a figure of 11.4 for Britain and 5.9 for West Germany.

The newspaper said: "It

appears that, unlike many other countries, we do not give enough attention to modern forms of contraception. While our birthrate is still falling, abortion has become the main method for controlling it."

Abortion is available on demand in the Soviet Union.



Mrs Kinnoch listening to testimony by William Modebedi, aged 11, who said he was given electric shocks while detained.

## Mrs Kinnoch hears details of torture

From A Correspondent Harare

Young South Africans yesterday described incidents of torture, beatings, electric shock treatment, and prolonged solitary confinement to an international conference on children, repression and the law under apartheid.

Mrs Glensy Kinnoch, wife of the Leader of the Opposition and a trustee of the Bishop Ambrose Reeves Foundation which organized the conference, sat beside the young blacks, interviewing when an 11-year-old boy, William Modebedi, was unable to complete his testimony.

"This is a big ordeal for a child of 11," said Mrs Kinnoch. "I think we should maybe stop here because he has obviously had a hard time."

The boy's mother, Mrs Sophia Modebedi, then testified that when her son was released from custody he told her of being shown corpses in a police mortuary before interrogation sessions. Mrs Modebedi said her son was subjected to electric shocks and had teeth knocked out.

William himself said he was picked up in a dawn swoop on

his Johannesburg home and was questioned, along with his older brother and sisters, about setting fire to cars.

Three witnesses, with ages ranging from 16 to 22, described electric shock torture and how they were forced to stare into powerful lights. All have since fled South Africa and live in exile in African National Congress "transit camps" or training schools in Zambia and Tanzania.

Mrs Kinnoch also presented to the 400 delegates a 13-year-old South African girl, Nthabeseng Mabasa, who was shot

twice during a South African raid on the Botswana capital, Gaborone.

Now paralysed from the waist down and confined to a wheelchair, she is receiving therapy in Harare. She believed that the South Africans came to her home seeking members of the outlawed African National Congress.

Mrs Kinnoch said the sufferings of the children were deeply moving. She said: "We wish others, too, could be here, who argue for understanding the difficulties of the white minority regime and say they should be given time."

## Israel's nuclear secrecy attacked

Vienna (AFP) — The International Atomic Energy Agency yesterday asked Israel to submit its nuclear energy facilities to international control and voiced concern over "deeply disquieting" reports that Israel has nuclear bombs.

The IAEA also mandated its Director-General to prepare a report on the Israeli nuclear threat for its annual conference in 1982.

The resolution was introduced by 13 mostly Arab countries and passed by a vote of 48 to 29, with the United States and most Western European countries voting against it.

## Mission raid

Lisbon (Reuters) — Right-wing rebels attacked a Methodist mission in Mozambique's Inhambane province this week, killing 28 people and kidnapping a number of nurses and teachers, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

## Drug sentence

Sydney (AFP) — Richard Doney, a 40-year-old Sydney freight operator who smuggled two tonnes of cannabis worth £106 million into Australia on board a container ship from Pakistan, has been jailed for 20 years.

## Fatal brew

Peking (Reuters) — China has executed two men who mixed methanol with home-made rice wine that killed 33 people, blinded 12 and put 227 in hospital in Guangxi region.

## Battery vote

Stockholm (Reuters) — The national congress of Sweden's ruling Social Democratic Party has voted to ban the battery-rearing of chickens.

## Visas go

Helsinki (AFP) — Finland and East Germany have agreed to abolish visas for their citizens visiting each other's country.

## Cool cabbies

Amsterdam (Reuters) — Amsterdam has introduced psychological tests for prospective taxi drivers, seeking cabbies who are polite, careful and good-tempered when not given a tip.



Chief Matanzima under guard in South African hotel.

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

The former government leader of the Transkei homeland, Chief George Matanzima, was under guard yesterday in a Port Elizabeth hotel while South African and Transkei homeland authorities continued to insist that no coup had taken place in the mini-state he previously ruled as a tribal fiefdom.

Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, issued a statement saying his department had been kept informed of events in Transkei, and had been assured by its ambassador in Umtata, the capital, that the government there was "functioning normally".

Home to some 3,000,000 Xhosa-speaking blacks, Transkei has been regarded by Pretoria since 1976 as an independent state, a status not recognized anywhere else.

The facts of Thursday's drama in Transkei, as far as they can be established, are that six ministers and two deputy ministers have been removed from office and are now confined to their homes. Officially, they are said to have "resigned". But, according to independent sources, soldiers went to their homes and forced them to sign letters of resignation.

Chief George Matanzima, according to one version, slipped through the security net, and fled to Port

Elizabeth, though Major-General Bantu Holomisa, head of the homeland army, insists that the chief is only "on sick leave".

Transkei's President, Paramount Chief Tutu Ndamase, who asserted on Thursday night that "there is no coup in the country and nobody has been arrested", has appointed Chief Dumisani Gwadiiso, aged 35, to be acting head of the government.

The upheaval in the mini-state came amid allegations of massive corruption involving Chief Matanzima and other ministers. Last week a commission of inquiry set up at South Africa's urging heard one witness tell how he had personally handed Chief Matanzima the

equivalent of £300,000 as a "kickback" from a construction company awarded a contract to build 800 houses in Umtata.

The inquiry also disclosed details of how huge sums of money had been transferred abroad to a mysterious Lebanese company, supposedly to pay for grandiose construction projects, including the building of a harbour and an international airport.

The airport runway was eventually lengthened, but the work was done by a local South African company. No work has been done on the harbour at all. According to evidence before the inquiry, Chief

Matanzima authorized the payments to the Lebanese concern.

General Holomisa has played a key role in recent events. Aged 31, he was appointed army commander earlier this year when he and a group of other soldiers critical of corruption in high places forced the authorities to expel 27 former white Rhodesian Selous Scouts.

Chief Matanzima had recruited the Scouts and was fatally weakened by their removal. Interest now centres on what move his elder brother, Paramount Chief Kaiser Matanzima, will make, as the first president of Transkei but of late in the political wilderness after falling out with Chief George.

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## Second military coup in Fiji increases fears of communal violence

# Rebel regime faces Pacific sanctions

## Lange deplores 'tragic' action

Fiji's second coup since May immediately ran into broad hostility from its South Pacific neighbours, particularly Australia and New Zealand, who will now consider methods, including economic sanctions, of bringing the military regime swiftly to its knees.

Regional concern is compounded because Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka's coup yesterday - supported by ethnic Fijian extremists - destroyed the bipartisan political consensus only just achieved after weeks of delicate negotiation.

Last night it was unofficially reported that Dr Timoci Bavadra, the former Prime Minister who was deposed in the first coup, on May 14, was again in detention.

But the Governor-General, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, spoke by telephone to the Australian High Commissioner, Mr John Piper, after the coup and did not appear to be under restriction.

Rekindled tensions between Fijians and ethnic Indians make the situation more volatile than previously. Ethnic Indians may renew a campaign of civil disobedience, while the extremist Fijian Tautaki movement, which wants Indians repatriated, has previously resorted to assault, arson and looting.

Last night, the Australian Government deplored the coup and said it would take whatever steps were necessary to safeguard its citizens, between 2,000 and 3,000 of whom are taking advantage of the cheap package holidays in Fiji which were offered in an attempt to attract back the tourist trade.

The New Zealand Government ordered an unarmed ship to the islands in case evacuation of its citizens became necessary.

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Reasons for introducing economic sanctions against the new regime were not long in coming. Mr Don Dunstan, the former Premier of South Australia and now head of the Movement for Democracy in Fiji, said immediate and comprehensive sanctions by the Australian Government and trade union movement could quickly bring down the military leaders.

The Fijian economy has been under severe strain since the May coup and, even without the imposition of sanctions, the drain on foreign

Canberra (Reuter) - Fijian political leaders were warned several days ago that another military takeover would occur, according to a letter circulated by a Fijian group in Australia.

The Australian Associated Press said yesterday that it had been given a copy of the letter which purported to be written by a senior Fijian military officer four days previously. The letter, distributed by a group calling itself the Fiji Independent News Service, outlined destabilisation plans by the extreme Tautaki Movement to spark a coup, including a provision to murder Dr Timoci Bavadra, the ousted Prime Minister.

reserves will confront the military's paymasters with the problem of how to maintain a standing force estimated to have increased from about 2,000 members in May to more than 6,000.

The coup was announced on radio by Colonel Rabuka, who had already signalled his displeasure with the "pass back to democracy" secured on Wednesday by Ratu Ganilau.

The Governor-General's bipartisan agreement had drawn Dr Bavadra and his prede-

cessor, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, into a caretaker government pending constitutional changes and new elections.

Colonel Rabuka said his forces had "reasserted their authority over the Government of Fiji". He said it had become clear to him that "recent developments" would not help the aims of his original coup, which had been to ensure that Fijians would remain in control of Parliament through constitutional change.

"I will be taking immediate steps to bring about the desired constitutional change in a manner which will bring about lasting peace and prosperity in our beloved country," Colonel Rabuka was quoted by Australian Associated Press as saying.

The coup leader, who is aged 39 and a Methodist lay preacher, concluded: "God bless Fiji."

Shortly before the broadcast, troops swooped on the offices of Fiji's two newspapers and a commercial radio station, ordering editors, managers and staff at gunpoint to leave. Reporters had telephones snatched from their hands.

Telephone links with the outside world were cut, and a curfew between the hours of 8 pm and 5 am was imposed.

Soon afterwards, a witness said, about 40 troops arrived at the Suva home of Dr Bavadra and rampaged through the building.

Shots were fired and some damage caused, but nobody was injured. Dr Bavadra was said to have been detained as he was being driven from Suva to his village of Viseisei, on the western side of the main island, Viti Levu. According to uncorroborated reports, two judges and a news-



Colonel Rabuka, above, waving to supporters yesterday in Suva, while Ratu Ganilau, top right, has seen his peace moves dashed with Dr Bavadra, bottom right, reportedly detained.

paper editor were also detained.

If the dangers of serious communal violence are now greater than at any time in the Fijian crisis, so are the risks for Colonel Rabuka. He has openly broken with Ratu Ganilau, who is not only the

Governor-General but his traditional paramount chief.

He has also broken with Ratu Mara who, as Prime Minister for 17 years, is a figure much respected by moderate Fijians.

Colonel Rabuka's discernible power base is the Tautaki, an extremist and racist group which last month caused revision in Suva, the capital, by staging an anti-Indian demonstration with unmistakable overtones of cannibalism.

Wellington (Reuter) - Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said yesterday that Fiji's second coup in five months was deplorable and tragic.

Mr Lange said there was no indication that some 1,000 New Zealanders in Fiji were under threat, but the Navy's unarmed survey ship, HMNZS Monowai, would leave for the Fiji area today. It could carry about 500 passengers if required.

Mr Lange added that no other ships would be sent and he said New Zealand would not intervene in Fiji militarily.

"It is tragic that at the very point when the Governor-General had brought together the rival political factions and had secured their agreement to set up an interim government designed to restore democracy, the military should have taken this deplorable action," Mr Lange said in a written statement.

Mr Lange told a news conference that the takeover was worse than the May 14 coup because, effectively, it meant that the Governor-General, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, had been removed from office.

"In May, the authority of the Governor-General was respected and there was always therefore the prospect that... there could ultimately be a restoration to an acceptable form of parliamentary democracy," he said.

"The action of Colonel (Sitiveni) Rabuka strikes not just against the principle of parliamentary democracy but also goes to the core of the Constitution of Fiji."

Mr Lange said that the timing of the latest coup was no surprise. "If there was to be one, then it would have been after that agreement (on a coalition) had been reached and before it had a chance to capture a degree of popular support," he said.

## Australia prepares evacuation fleet

Canberra (Reuter) - Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, said that his country would urgently review its relationship with Fiji after the second military coup in five months.

"The Government will be urgently reviewing policy towards Fiji in the light of this development and consulting with other interested countries, including those in the South Pacific," Mr Hawke said.

After the first coup Australia stopped military aid and suspended new development projects.

He said that he was shocked and saddened by the coup. "I believe all Australians will share this reaction," he said.

Mr Hawke said that the latest coup constituted use of illegitimate force to abort the formation of a compromise coalition which would have been a step forward in resolving the country's problems.

"That the Army has done this is, from Australia's point of view, deplorable," he said.

## Suva's year of ethnic unrest

Suva (Reuter) - Chronology of the Fijian troubles in 1987: April 12 An Indian-dominated coalition wins 28 of 52 seats to House of Representatives in general election, ousting the Fijian-dominated Alliance Party.

May 14 Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka stages bloodless coup, bursts into Parliament with armed soldiers and kidnaps Dr Timoci Bavadra, Prime Minister, and Cabinet. Fiji military appoints interim government in defiance of Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, Governor-General.

May 15 Ratu Ganilau refuses to swear in military-backed interim Government.

May 17 Fiji judiciary declares military-backed Government illegal. Governor-General takes executive power, swearing in Colonel Rabuka to chair

Council of Ministers.

May 18 Ratu Ganilau, as Commander-in-Chief of Armed Forces, orders troops back to barracks, release of Cabinet, lifting of press censorship and return to parliamentary rule.

May 20 Ratu Ganilau dissolves Parliament, saying new poll would be called.

May 21 Dr Bavadra goes into hiding after violence in Suva.

May 22 Great Council of Chiefs agrees with Governor-General on caretaker administration, with Ratu Ganilau as chief executive. Colonel Rabuka heads committee to revise Constitution.

May 24 Dr Bavadra announces boycott of interim administration.

July 15 Dr Bavadra says he will join Ratu Ganilau's constitutional review.

July 22 Council of Chiefs supports maintenance of links with British Crown, and shelves moves to declare Fiji a republic.

July 31 Colonel Rabuka officially sworn in as Commander-in-Chief of Fiji's security forces.

Aug 31 Ratu Ganilau proposes caretaker government to run country until parliamentary democracy is restored.

September 11 Dr Bavadra returns to talks surrounded by bodyguards.

September 22 Fiji's rival political parties agree to form caretaker Government, with equal representation, to help restore democracy.

September 25 Army re-assumes control in a second coup.

## Bush campaigns in Europe



Vice-President Bush, right, being welcomed by Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the President of the Italian Senate, at Rome's Ciampino military airport yesterday at the start of his tour.

## 'Dull' candidate bound for Poland in search of stature

By Christopher Thomas, Washington

Vice-President George Bush, the front-runner for the Republican presidential nomination, leaves Italy for Poland today on the next leg of a whistle-stop European tour designed mainly to thrust him into the public eye.

Mr Bush, whose campaign has been notable for its extraordinary dullness, is taking along a private camera crew so that his meetings with international figures can be included in campaign films. His aides call it the "stature advantage", and his Downing Street talks with Mrs Thatcher on arms control and the Gulf next Thursday will be a highlight. He mentioned the Prime Minister's name repeatedly in interviews before he left Washington two days ago, no doubt aware that most Americans admire her.

Mr Bush is to announce his candidacy formally on October 12. Although still far ahead of his rivals, he has been slipping down the polls and has failed to make any interesting headlines or demonstrate conclusively that he can stand alone, outside the shadow of President Reagan.

He is the highest-ranking United States official to visit Poland since President Carter in 1977. The White House said his talks in Warsaw would be a key step in the improvement of relations between the two countries, which are once more about to exchange ambassadors.

Mr Victor Litwinski, a tall, balding man, will be the Vice-President's interpreter and will find himself under intense scrutiny, with Poles hanging on his every word.

The translator Mr Carter used turned out to be a disaster. He gave sexual nuances to Mr Carter's arrival remarks, translating as "lusts" the Polish "desires" which the President said he wanted to get to know. The translator used archaic expressions, and his language contained traces of Ukrainian, forcing the US to apologise to the Polish Government. The hapless man was fired.

Mr Litwinski, seems however, to be better qualified, having been a Warsaw University lecturer.

Mr Bush insisted that his

European tour was "not just show business". He staunchly defended his use of a private camera team, saying that Senator Robert Dole, his closest rival, also took one to Nicaragua when he met President Ortega.

He conceded that so far his views had come across as "hazy" and said he intended to begin clarifying them. Senior aides, reflecting on future uses of the "stature advantage" are considering whether the Vice-President should tour the Far East before the Iowa caucuses in February.

Mr Bush leaves Poland for Bonn on Tuesday. Then, after less than 24 hours in London, he goes to Brussels. He returns to Washington today week.

WARSAW: Mr Bush's four-day visit to Warsaw is widely expected to cement US-Polish relations which have remained somewhat uneasy ever since the days of martial law (Richard Bassett writes).

In particular, the long-awaited restoration of full diplomatic relations is expected to be officially announced during the visit.

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## SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

### Signing on for stardom

It's those with the fire signs — Leo, Aries, Sagittarius — who tend to be the real sports types, especially athletes. "You couldn't get a more typical Leo than Daley Thompson," said Russell Grant, the astrologer. "Earth signs are more spectator types: the ones that cheer teams on." Earth signs being Taurus, Capricorn and Virgo. Virgos are also great health enthusiasts, like Colin Moynihan, the super-keen new Minister for Sport. Capricorns share with Scorpios a taste for endurance sports while the water signs, Pisces, Cancer and Scorpio, naturally go for water sports. Gemini tend to like racket sports, which suit their quick-witted natures, while Aquarians have a place in God's world as organizers. Librans like the gentler sports — bowls, croquet and golf. My conversation with Grant drifted inevitably on to star signs from the original main point: his recently-announced sponsorship of the Middlesex Senior Charity Cup for non-league football teams. He has a special affection for non-league football, with soft spots for Uxbridge, Rayners Lane and Harefield. What are their signs, I wonder?

Quote of the week, from a Twinkl irregular after the last match of the season on Monday, a rain-splattered draw with Grub Street Casuals: "I wonder if my kit will dry out by next season..."

### Talcing point

Stafford Rangers of the GM Vauxhall Conference recently suffered their sixth burglary in two years, losing two televisions and a fair amount of booze. While he was about it, the thief had a shower, borrowing the manager's washing bag for a touch of luxury. After that, no ho, he got clean away. Complaints about this joke should be sent to the GM Vauxhall Conference spokesman who supplied it.

### Starters

These days you even get *glamazon* in racing. Tomorrow, trainer Barry Hills is holding an open day at his yard at Manton, the very idea of which would have chilled his predecessors. Michael Dickinson, the most recent, was the last in a line of Manton governors obsessed with secrecy, even having a public footpath rerouted away from the gallops. George Todd locked up his lads at night. Alec Taylor used to open the lads' mail and when he saw any strangers near the gallops he would charge them on his back, his hunting whip flailing. Now the last closed society is opening its doors.

BARRY FANTONI



"Great. We can pretend we're playing in Europe again."

### Sweet fifteen

As the new rugby season gets into its stride, one of the quietest revolutions in sport continues. We all know about the meteoric rise of American football as a participant sport in Britain — but women's rugby has been growing just as quickly. At the end of the 1985 season there were 12 clubs; now there are 52, in two divisions. Some put up two teams a week, and a few, like Richmond, are considering a third. "When it comes to contact," says Pru Watkins of Richmond, "we are just as committed as the men. When we make a tackle, we mean it. But our game is less violent." The women's game is mostly about running, and kicking is a decided weakness. "Girls are not brought up to kick from the age of four," said Miss Watkins, "but we're getting there." And the men's attitude? "Naturally a lot of them are pretty suspicious of us but each club has enough people who are truly sympathetic and who make it work."

Those who failed to back Asgate Comet, tipped by just racing snout last Saturday, please kick yourselves. It won at 9-4.

### Pullen power

South Liverpool, of the Northern Premier League, may not be the biggest name in Merseyside football but has decided to become the nursery of the next generation of stars. It has established an under-18 side under the Youth Training Scheme whose members play, train, and learn about sport management for two years. The club that gave you John Aldridge and gentle Jimmy Case also plans to give you Phil Pullen among others. It was he who scored all three in his side's recent 3-3 draw with Liverpool's A team.

# Averting a Fiji tragedy

Brian James warns of a fierce Indian reaction after the latest army coup

For many Fijians, the five months since Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka staged his coup, only to take his troops off the streets soon after, have been a period of waiting for the other army boot to drop. The colonel's second takeover yesterday seemed probable, perhaps inevitable, because the situation has not changed in a single essential since the first.

What we have been observing is a sort of ritual Fijian peace dance. There has been an earnest, good-hearted attempt to satisfy all with a rewrite of the 1970 constitution. It was doomed, surely, by the intransigence of the tribal chiefs. To give the native Fijian minority a permanent political majority, without at once committing the more numerous Indian community to lasting inferiority, was a non-negotiable demand that could not be met in that stark form.

The belief that the exercise would therefore fail was underlying every conversation I had recently with leaders of the two communities throughout the main islands. So also was the apprehension that once the colonel had tired of this cosmetic dusting of democracy he would again summon his troops to the streets.

The latest coup is said to have been bloodless. So the Fijian tourist board will again be issuing hurried invitations to Australian and American holiday companies to tour the islands' luxury resorts

to provide "proof" that everything in paradise remains peaceful and unthreatened. I am not certain how long the picture can hold.

For the assumption that the Fijian army, heavily sprinkled with, and totally answerable to, the Taukei movement is the only power in the land rests on two false assumptions. One is that the Indians would have no stomach for a fight with the traditionally martial Fijians. But not all Hindus are middle-class shopkeepers. Few people have shown a greater capacity for violence against their neighbours. Ask the Sikhs. Ask the Muslims. Ask the Singhalese.

The other mistake may be to believe that the Indians would hesitate to embrace the consequences to themselves of ruining the Fijian economy. I was present at a mass meeting of 1,000 Indian sugar cane farmers which decided to end a six-week boycott and begin the harvest on which 60 per cent of the islands' income depends.

Sir Vijay Singh, chief executive of the cane-growers' council, said then that the time for protest was over; the crop must be cut for the sake of all. His advice to the growers to save much of their land

after the harvest for food for themselves and their families was less publicized. If Fiji's economy does collapse, it will be the Indians who are best equipped to survive.

The cost of the coup is already heavy, and some Indians had counted on this to keep Colonel Rabuka at bay. "Now the bills have started coming, all the Fijian enthusiasm for the army take-over has ended," said one Indian leader. But he had underestimated the depth of fear among the Fijians that unless they act, whatever the cost, they are doomed to insignificance in their own land — the aborigines of the 21st century.

It is a fear played upon by the tribal chiefs who have pulled all the strings, including that of the bold colonel, in this minor revolt which has within it the makings of a tragedy. For centuries their chieftain system, a pyramid structure of countless well-understood favours and obligations, was, in their view, government enough.

But the position granted them within the constitution, powerful enough to ensure, for example, the protection of tribal lands from encroachment, was not enough. They had fears of the Indian

numbers, and they had envy of Indian wealth.

Fiji is a land where the parable of the grasshopper and the ant is played out endlessly. Fijians get up in the morning with a smile and do what they feel. Indians get up and do what they must. Crude generalizations about the grim industry of one race and the happy indolence of another are reinforced on every hand.

The Indians in Fiji are not without fault. All the familiar taunts are heard: they do not mix, they do not join, they do not speak our languages or learn our ways. But their greatest sin, one suspects, is that from the most meagre of starts, with the most minimal of help beyond their sweat, they succeed. It is for that they are not forgiven.

Can outsiders do anything to help? A Commonwealth warning that a Fijian republic, unlawfully declared and based on the subversion of more than half its people, cannot retain membership of the club beneath the Crown, should be a starting point. Moderate Fijians would hesitate at that.

It is never too late to avoid tragedy. But a clear view as to why the Fijians now act this way, recognition that Indian meekness is a dangerous myth, and an unhesitating use of the Fijians' genuine affection for the Crown, are necessary tools for a beginning.

Robin Oakley on the Labour tensions that will resurface at Brighton

## Kinnock's ceaseless slog

Labour has managed a remarkable public calm since the election. In part, this is a tribute to the control that Neil Kinnock has won over his party, but it owes more to the recent Liberal and SDP convulsions. Next week's party conference could be the occasion, like a big family Christmas, for pent-up emotions to emerge. In particular, it will demonstrate if the hard left has been tamed for good or if it can hope for a comeback.

In the June election, Labour won more votes than in 1983 but it was 6 per cent down on 1979 and 11 per cent down on 1970, both years of Tory victory. It won even fewer skilled working class votes than in 1983. Outside London, on a line drawn from Bristol to the Wash, Labour holds just three seats out of 170. If it is to win next time, it has to win at least three million votes. So there is much talk of making Labour more "voter-friendly." Bryan Gould has candidly admitted that it must appeal not only to socialist values but also to self-interest.

By common consent, the main reasons for Labour's election failure were its unilateralist defence stance and its failure to convince the country that it could pay for its programme without raising taxes. Harder to deal with is the common perception that Labour is under the trade union thumb and the handicap of its association with the "loony left" in local government. But what will Brighton actually do about it?

One sign of the despair in Labour's ranks is the rash of conference motions calling for the party to study proportional representation. It's true that had the election been fought under PR, the Tories would have taken 100 seats fewer and lost their majority. But if the so-called anti-Thatcher majority is there, so is the anti-Labour majority. Labour would have come back with barely 200 seats, way short of the 326 needed for a majority. The snag about PR for Labour is that it could govern only in coalition. There is no magic cure there.

But any discussion of PR will be an interesting sideshow. Neil Kinnock has ensured that, along with the "whither Labour?" debate, the crucial question will be what happens to his call for one man-one vote in the selection and reselection of MPs.

It is crucial because it involves the central questions on Labour's future — the capacity of a small corps of left-wing activists to manipulate its affairs, the degree of control exerted by the trade unions and the leader's freedom to

Newspapers and periodicals infringe the law they publish defamatory, seditious or blasphemous material or material which offends public decency. The law also prevents monopoly. Does television require more intervention than this? The answer, now that the government seems likely to increase the number of commercial broadcasting channels, is certainly "yes".

More channels will offer the public the chance to see a greater variety of programmes and greater opportunities for young and enterprising programme makers to display their wares. Paying directly for television services, which the new subscription technology allows, gives the consumer a far wider choice. However, a subscription plus advertising revenue is hardly likely to be enough to finance quality programmes which reflect the public's desire to improve their knowledge and extend their cultural experience.

A further modification in a wholly commercial system is required by the "principle of universality". Many supporters of public service broadcasting (PSB) insist that there should be equal access to all broadcasting services, despite the considerable disparity in the costs of providing such services to different parts of the country. In a purely commercial system, companies would wish to cover their costs by charging different prices for subscription services in different areas.

Certainly the principle of universality receives support from the public's interest in disseminat-



fashion an outward-looking party.

Kinnock wants the reform because it would release constituency parties from the control of small groups of activists frequently dominated by the hard left and so would free his MPs to get on with the job of opposing the government in Parliament instead of protecting their home bases. He tried once before, in 1984, and failed. Failure again would be a severe blow to his leadership.

Unfortunately for him, union chiefs have been unclear whether Kinnock was backing one man-one vote in its purest form or whether he was prepared to settle for an electoral college, preserving the existing right of the unions in the selection process.

Kinnock has the block vote set up to endorse the principle of extending the franchise, but the unions could yet produce a shambles when the conference gets

down to mechanisms. And if their block votes are used to push through a probably unworkable electoral college — which would allow activists to get their way by packing union meetings instead — Labour would have gained little credibility from the exercise.

Monday's one man-one vote battle, as well as the policy debate, will tell us too what enough the left can muster. Since Tony Benn's battle for the deputy leadership in 1981 the left has been fragmented. In Parliament the harder left split away from the Tribune Group to form the Campaign Group amid the compromises following the 1983 election defeat. In local government, fundamentalists like Ted Knight and John McDonnell split from Ken Livingstone over rate capping and observing the law.

While the harder shades of the left have been fighting their own internal battles and involving

themselves in fringe issues like black sections they have been failing to provide a counter-influence on Kinnock to that of shadow cabinet right-wingers.

Attempts to make the left more relevant have begun. Prominent figures in the hard left Labour Left Liaison and the softer Left Labour Co-ordinating Committee are seeking to organize in context. But the true importance of the left was shown when Tribune and Campaign failed to agree on a slate of candidates for this year's shadow cabinet and by the public scorn of Campaign support by advancing figures in the party like Jack Straw, Gordon Brown and Tony Blair — who prospered none the less.

The policy debate now opening up, and the battle to strip away the power it had gained over MP's reselection, will be the last real chance for the left to rally its forces. But it will have to produce something more than sneers at the pursuit of the Yippie vote by the likes of Mr Gould.

The odds are that Kinnock will succeed in marginalizing the hard left. If the battle becomes noisy he will not worry. His clashes with Arthur Scargill and Derek Hatton have been the making of him where the floating voter is concerned. But he can only go so far. In making Labour an outward-looking 1990's party prepared to look after the interests of the prospering as well as the deprived he will only be able to go as far as David Blunkett, Tom Sawyer, Michael Meacher and the rest of the soft left on the NEC are prepared to go.

The real problem is policy. It is simply no good Labour being the second-best party at running capitalism. Voters know the Tories do that better and with more conviction.

Labour wants to be more friendly. It wants to be more up-to-date. But it has to drag the sea anchor of the unions along with it. And there is simply no sign that it has found anything distinctive to say at present. As Roy Hattersley puts it in *New Socialist*: "We are bombarded with articles about the need to realign, reinvigorate and reunite the left. None of them ever explains what the realignment is for, what the re-involution will achieve, or around which principles reunion is to be built."

Labour may have begun listening to the people, but as it prepares to discuss its third election defeat in a row it is really the Polo party. In the middle where its heart and soul and policies ought to be there is only a hole.

Alan Peacock urges greater intervention to preserve quality TV programmes

## New channels that must be checked

ing the benefits of high-quality programmes. However, it would be absurd to insist on "universal universality". It is not realistic to expect that every new experiment in broadcasting should be available in the most isolated parts of the country. The Committee on Financing the BBC suggested that there should be a minimum universality requirement, so that the portion of the population out of reach of new satellite cable or new terrestrial channels would still be able to receive transmission from the present four channels.

The present way of promoting PSB has been to offer the BBC a secure form of finance, the licence fee, and to make PSB financing a condition of the award of a commercial franchise. This system will be impossible to operate with the expansion in the number of channels. Stations relying solely on subscription finance and advertising revenue will not only have to compete with one another but, faced with a PSB obligation, would encounter two forms of unfair competition.

First, suppliers of satellite services from abroad have no such

obligations to meet. Secondly, if the BBC is permitted to raise revenue from subscription, why should it have the additional advantage of a large compulsory levy to buttress its position in the market? There will be growing resistance to the imposition of onerous PSB obligations and monitoring will in any case be made more difficult by the growth in the number and variety of TV channels. It would be a confession of failure by any government to refuse access to the broadcasting market simply because it then becomes easier to regulate.

This is why the Committee on Financing the BBC offered the alternative of public financing of PSB. Such a system might embrace the following features, though I must not commit the committee to certain embellishments of my own:

● Channels undertaking PSB obligations would bid for public service contracts which would be awarded, for say, a three-year period, renewable.

● The universality rule should apply only to four channels.

● Initially, preference might be

given to the existing four channels in the award of PSB contracts, both in recognition of their universality obligations and their experience and commitment to PSB programming.

● PSB should have a regional/national (Scotland and Wales) dimension, so recognizing cultural differences. This would be done by award of contracts directly to regional companies.

● In the longer run, no channel would have hypothetical revenue (as with the licence fee). Therefore, if the licence fee were to remain as a principal source of revenue for TV public subsidy, it would not be pre-empted by the BBC. The BBC would have to compete for PSB contracts along with the rest.

● A condition of receipt of a PSB contract would be an obligation to buy a specified percentage of programmes prepared by independent producers.

The government has rightly concentrated its attention on those recommendations of the committee concerning the unscrupling of the "comfortable duopoly" run by the BBC and ITV. However, if, as is claimed, spectrum scarcity will soon be a thing of the past and we are to have many more channels than previously envisaged, its PSB proposals require urgent, critical attention.

Sir Alan Peacock chaired the Committee on Financing the BBC which reported in July 1986. He is now executive director of The David Hume Institute, Edinburgh.

Robert Kilroy-Silk

## When lib invades the library

The "I know what's best for you" tendency is at it again. This time it's Lewisham Council's women's committee telling us what we can read. It has decreed that in selecting books for libraries, "the content should be examined to ensure that people are characterized as individuals and stereotypes avoided." Books that depict men as logical and objective and women as emotional and subjective should be rejected. Instead we shall be proffered works that show "women as interested in their work, pursuing career goals, and both deserving of and receiving public attention."

At first sight such authoritarian silliness is laughable, another example of the antics of ideological fanatics who don't have enough real and productive work to fill their time. But that would be far too complacent a response. After all, what the committee dictates affects all the borrowers of books from Lewisham libraries. It would also give example and confidence to zealots everywhere. Nor should we forget that all other dictators and would-be thought controllers were laughed at, to begin with.

The members of the committee certainly take themselves very seriously. So does the council, which has translated their edicts into official guidelines. They are so arrogantly confident of their infallibility and their intellectual and moral superiority as to set themselves up as our betters, the guardians of our best interests and the censors of our books. They are the ones with the intellectual strength and integrity while the rest of us are obviously malleable and gullible.

They must believe this because it's the only justification for their elite vanguard role. And if it's true of feminism in Lewisham why is it not also true of other issues elsewhere? Perhaps they and their ilk should also guide our reading and our thoughts on everything, just as they now attempt to do on race and sex. Concede, as so many have, the principle of being dictated to by our betters in one area and it's difficult not to relinquish it in others.

There's a powerful case to be made against the way that women are portrayed and treated. It should be prosecuted vigorously. But that cannot justify one group of self-selecting true believers, however laudable their aims, to impose their view on the rest of us.

Unfortunately, the members of Lewisham women's committee are not the only or most powerful adherents of the "I know what's best for you" tendency. They have infiltrated many of our institu-

tions, especially, but not exclusively, those of the left. They were to be found in great and self-righteous abundance during the controversy over the parents who refused to send their children to an Asian-dominated school in Dewsbury. Many of those who fulminated against the parents had the gall to lecture them on the virtues of multi-cultural education. They should accept it, they were told, because it's best for the country.

Perhaps, but it has yet to be proved. Indeed, it's not provable; it's a value-judgement. And the Dewsbury parents are as entitled to make that judgement one way as are all the educational pundits and do-gooders to make it the other. It's to the parents' credit that they have resisted all the lectures and middle-class bullying on what is in their children's interest and resolutely stuck to what they want for them.

The same kind of arrogance displayed by the liberal educational establishment is exhibited by those who rail against private medicine and private education. I'm not suggesting that either is desirable. They are not. I wish we had no need of them and I would not criticize those who advance the case against either. My condemnation is reserved for those who seek to characterize all those who use or seek to use private provision as evil, to condemn the working-class parents who feel compelled to take up an assisted school place or buy an operation for their child.

It's particularly amusing that those who tend to be the most ferocious and vociferous of the "I know what's best for you" tendency are not prepared to suffer for themselves what they would impose on others. They will always read what books they like, live miles from the nearest multi-cultural school — indeed will have taken great pains to live in an area with a good school — and, as Denis Healey's wife and others have shown, and Neil Kinnock has confessed that he would, they use private medicine when they think it's necessary.

As always it's the poor and the working class who suffer the brunt of the patronizing attitude and the limitations on their freedom of choice. The rich will always be free. There was a time when working people listened and deferred to the middle-class teachers and preachers. They have now thrown off those shackles. They won't allow them to be replaced by the new polytechnocracy, whatever its politics.

© Times Newspapers, 1987. The author was a Merseyside Labour MP, 1974-86.

Michael Kinsley

## Now for a war on facism

Washington  
So this gorilla shows up at the personnel office and asks for a job. The personnel director says: "Are you kidding? We can't hire you. You look like a gorilla." To which the gorilla replies: "Watch out, buddy, I'm gonna sue you for work discrimination under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973."

OK, it's not much of a punch line. I got it from the *Harvard Law Review*, in an essay arguing that it should be illegal to discriminate on the basis of physical attractiveness. In fact, says the author, "facial discrimination" may already be illegal in America under laws forbidding discrimination against the handicapped. "It... seems an arbitrary distinction to say that an employer cannot refuse to hire a person who has a disfiguring scar on his chin, for example, but can refuse to hire someone whose chin is jutting or unusually shaped."

The logic is impeccable. Appearance, like race, sex and physical handicap, is an immutable characteristic. Like those other disadvantages, an unattractive appearance usually has no connection with your ability to do the job. Discrimination on this basis is just as unfair and should, therefore, be outlawed.

But even those who support this view must concede that beauty is a great advantage in the world. In good law review style, the author cites an array of studies proving the obvious: people automatically assign favourable non-physical characteristics to those who are good looking; strangers are more likely to do favours for physically attractive people; ugly people get tougher sentences in criminal cases and lower damage awards in civil lawsuits.

Obviously, many rise above the handicap of appearance, to become distinguished professors at Harvard Law School, for example. It is my experience that when you see a famous person in the flesh, he or she is almost invariably shorter than you expect. (A friend of mine adds a corollary that famous people are almost invariably tanned, but that's neither here nor there.) This pattern is partly explained by the exaggerated stature that famous people take on in your mind, but there must also be some kind of Napoleonic impulse that drives short people to succeed.

Nevertheless, no one would choose to be short and ugly rather than tall and handsome. We are all traumatized to varying degrees about our appearance. Facial discrimination is far more overt and shameless than racial discrimination: our culture doesn't even attempt to hide its preference for

certain arrangements of facial and bodily parts over others.

Life will never deal an equal hand to the physically unattractive (or the "aesthetically challenged," as one tart commentator predicts the approved term will become). But shouldn't they at least be protected against discrimination in jobs, housing and college admissions?

In many cases, looks may not be an irrelevant criterion at all. The *Harvard Law Review* fellow is prepared to make a few narrow exceptions for jobs such as acting. But he takes a hard line against exceptions for sales people, stewardesses, and so on.

If looks are an advantage in these fields (which of course they are) it is only because of prejudice in society as a whole. We don't allow employers to pander to the racism of their customers. Why should we permit pandering to what might be called "looksism"?

No, the justice of the cause is beyond doubt. The question is whether we can afford to expand the awesome machinery of civil rights litigation into this vast new area. There is a natural restraint operating here, which the author unintentionally reveals in describing how an ugly-rights lawsuit might work: "An applicant will be able to point to some 'objective' aspect of his appearance — such as obesity, shortness, an unusual nose, or protruding ears; an applicant may... be able to demonstrate that someone general way, given the totality of his appearance, he is considered unattractive." He also suggests the use of expert witnesses. But it will be an exceptionally greedy or bitter person who would wish to pay a beauty expert to describe in a public courtroom how ugly he is.

People have a point when they ask where it will all end. The author suggests that job interviews be conducted over the telephone, to avoid a bias against looks. But doesn't this leave open the possibility of prejudice on the basis of a whiny voice? Or, he says, job applicants could be interviewed behind a screen — a system already used for orchestra auditions — so that an unpleasant face doesn't obscure an applicant's "pleasant personality."

Well, the one citadel of prejudice we may be sure is free from storming by the battalions of Harvard Law School is our society's overwhelming bias in favour of smart people. They may be short, fat, and ugly, with protruding ears, funny noses, jutting chins, and dyspeptic personalities. But they're not dumb.

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## THE FINAL DETERRENT

Less than ten years after failing to stop the United States' cruise and Pershing from being stationed in Western Europe, the Soviet Union and the Western "peace movement" will have their wish. By an Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty next year, subject to ratification by the US Senate, the missiles will go. But the Soviet Union and the peace movement will not rest there.

They will turn their attentions to the British Trident nuclear submarines. They will depict those weapons as the obstacle standing in the way of the next "historic" treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union: the one which would limit strategic nuclear weapons, and lead (it is claimed) to their eventual abolition. The British Trident will be to the 1990s what cruise and Pershing were to the 1980s. Britain can expect to see the "Holy Loch Peace Women".

Ideally, the opponents of the British nuclear deterrent would like to see the French deterrent abolished as well. They know they have no chance of that. France has no significant peace movement to play upon. For historical reasons, both left and right in France compete to appear the party of national independence. The British deterrent is a better object of the peace movement's attentions. Britain's main Opposition party — and a substantial part of her third party — is unilateralist. Whatever the opportunism of individual politicians at the top of the party, Labour at least is likely to remain unilateralist at heart.

The campaign against Trident will probably fail. But it will be long and noisy. Decent emotions, such as horror at the thought of nuclear war, will be exploited. Throughout this clamour, it will be important to bear in mind at all times why the campaign's failure will be deserved.

At present, Britain's nuclear deterrent consists of the four Polaris submarines — the result of an agreement with the United States in 1962. As the years passed, the question was inevitably asked: would they continue to deter? In such matters, governments can only look to guidance to "experts" and to "scientists". Experts and scientists have a habit of differing. But over the years enough of them have succeeded in satisfying successive governments that the British deterrent would not continue to deter unless updated. The case for updating became overwhelming — given the premise that Britain must be able to inflict unacceptable damage on the Soviet Union.

## A COMMONWEALTH ROLE

Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the Governor-General of Fiji, had been intending to broadcast to the country in celebration of the "historic consensus" which, two days before, had led to the formation of a carefully balanced bipartisan government in Suva. The Queen was among those who had sent him a message expressing her "warm appreciation" of what had been achieved.

It was not to be. Just when it looked as if this divided nation was beginning to climb out of the political crisis which engulfed it last May, the army leader Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka staged his second coup in a year and seized power in the name of the indigenous Melanesian people. Last night the immediate future and long-term stability of Fiji were once more in question.

The decision by Colonel Rabuka must be wrong for Fiji. His coup is apparently bloodless and he has promised to maintain the rule of law. But to overthrow, first, the democratically elected government and, then, the "caretaker" administration set up to guide Fiji back towards legitimacy and peace, is to undermine confidence in the country's future.

There are immediate dangers too. In the first place he is risking civil war. It is all very well for Rabuka to promise "no violence". But it is violence which has brought him to power and, in the electoral vacuum which he has himself created, it is by violence that he can be removed.

That, anyway, is how it may seem to the majority Indian population which is now being denied the means of free expression. So far Rabuka has relied on the passivity of Indians who have generally seemed more interested in commercial prosperity than political power. But their acquiescence cannot be taken for granted. There is the risk of a backlash which Melanesians may have cause to regret.

The coup will also damage the economy.

## FOURTH LEADER

Airlines are constantly devising new wheezes, presumably to distract the attention of the customers from the fares; if it isn't hot towels, it's propelling pencils, or beds-in-the-baggage-compartment, as reported in our pages yesterday. But British Airways have surely earned this year's IATA Award for Conspicuous Daffiness with their latest lark. It is called Fun-Flying (a more implausible conjunction of words can never have been since the invention of the Bombay Duck), and it works like this.

You pay £35 and go to Heathrow; you have to be there by 10 a.m. You are then directed to a plane, but they don't tell you where it is going. Moreover, you have little hope of finding out even when you get there, because you are not allowed, under the rules, to leave the airport.

But if you don't know where you are going, and indeed can be said only in the most desperately literal sense to have gone there at all, what is the point of the journey? Even with the knowledge that this is the brainchild of an airline, so that nothing is barred for absurdity, few will believe the answer: Fun-Flying enables the Fun-Fliers to buy duty-free goods at the airport to which, blindfolded and gagged, they have been taken.

It is possible, to put it more strongly, that somebody hasn't thought this idea right through. Fun-Fliers whose Magical Mystery

It was pointed out, for example, that Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Defences around Moscow were constantly being improved and that, irrespective of whether the United States deployed its Strategic Defence Initiative, the Soviet Union would eventually seek to develop strategic defence of its own, perhaps making the Soviet heartland invulnerable to Polaris. In making such judgements, the experts may be wrong. But, given again the crucial premise about unacceptable damage, no government could afford to ignore such warnings and hope to remain confident that it possessed a deterrent.

Mrs Thatcher's first government opted to acquire a completely new system, consisting of four submarines armed with the Trident missile — procured, like Polaris, from the United States. This new strategic deterrent should come into operation in the mid-1990s.

Any argument will be used to persuade the British people that it should not tolerate Trident. It will be said that, on moral grounds, Britain should not possess such horrible weapons. It will also be said that, since we will have only four of them, they are ineffective. (The peace movement does not worry about being contradictory.)

Politicians, including some who will say that Britain should concentrate on conventional defence, will argue that the country cannot afford them. In fact, the cost of procuring Trident over twenty years (the latest official estimate is £9,265m) is about the same as that of manning, equipping and maintaining an armoured division over the same period.

Above all, it will be said that the threat posed to Britain by the Soviet Union is not so great as to justify the need for such a defence. The British people will have to weigh the strength of that argument in the light of the overwhelming conventional superiority which the Soviet Union will possess over NATO in Europe in the years which will follow the "zero-zero" option.

American intermediate range nuclear weapons will then be gone. They will be followed perhaps by the gradual diminution of American conventional forces, leaving a Western Europe the nature of whose society makes it so socially and politically impossible for it to match the conventional strength of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union will be left the dominant European power. But it will be deterred from the ultimate aggression by the British and French nuclear deterrents.

Australia cut off military aid and cancelled development projects after the first coup this year. Its prime minister, Mr Bob Hawke, said yesterday that he was reviewing his country's future relationship with Fiji. In Wellington, Mr David Lange deplored the events in Suva on behalf of the New Zealand government. There is a limit to how far Rabuka can prudently risk the erosion of foreign confidence.

But yesterday's events are more than a test for Fiji. They are a test for the senior members of the Commonwealth. That is not principally Britain in this case. The Foreign Office position can be legitimately one of watching from the sidelines. It will not wish to involve itself too strongly in a faraway dispute, where other Commonwealth members, Australia, New Zealand and India, have the greater interest. It is up to them — and to other concerned Commonwealth members — to take the most vigorous action in protest at the Rabuka coup.

As Head of the Commonwealth, the Queen, not in this respect advised by the Foreign Office, will certainly be troubled by Rabuka's usurpation of power. She will doubtless use the coming meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government to take soundings about whether, if the coup is confirmed, Fiji can remain a Commonwealth member. But it is important that consideration of expulsion at the highest level be postponed at least till then. Too early a use of that threat is likely to be counter-productive.

No one should pretend that there are no lessons to be learnt from the last five months. Fiji cannot now return to its previous political state as if nothing had happened. But without friendly intervention from abroad the prospect of a peaceful return to constitutional rule looks bleak.

Tour takes them to Clermont-Ferrand, Staveland, Trollhattan, Maastricht, Inishmore, Erzurum or Split may find the duty-free facilities there far from lavish; it would be a pity to go all that way (and back) to collect nothing but some tie-dyed skirts and a set of spanners. And even at airports where the display is ample, there must be a limit to the fun that can be extracted from buying a duty-free Walkman, particularly since the same thing is usually available for half the price at your nearest Dixons with the instructions in English.

But those who draw the lucky cards, and find themselves in beautiful and romantic spots, are even worse off. Outside, it is Venice or Arles, Granada or a rose-red city half as old as time; but for all the Fun-Flier can see of it, as he listens to the incomprehensible bellowings of the loudspeaker, it might as well be Faskrudsford (regular connections to Breiddalsvik, Hofn and Egilsstadir), and if he sidles nonchalantly towards the exit he will encounter a stewardess with a fiery sword intoning the IATA Oath.

It will never catch on, not just for the reasons given above, but because regular airline passengers will find too little novelty in the scheme. After all, the idea is that you pay through the nose, you are kept in total ignorance, and you are virtually bound to be disappointed. So what else is new?

## Reducing value of child benefit

From Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, MP for Kensington (Conservative). Sir, It is disturbing that Treasury ministers are reported to be canvassing once again the notion of reducing the real value of child benefit. This idea is particularly inappropriate at a time when the public is being led to anticipate further cuts in direct taxation.

If the real value of child benefit is now reduced, it will mean that even larger numbers of people will have to swallow their self-respect and apply to the DHSS for the wherewithal to keep their children above the minimum standard of nourishment and clothing to maintain their health and decency.

It may not be appreciated by the Treasury because it is primarily a matter for the DHSS — that at any one time we now have about eight million people whose living standards are kept up by supplementary benefits. This is not a constant population: in the course of time a far larger number than that can expect, under the present arrangements, to go through the experience of passing a period of their lives in dependency on public assistance.

These are people who discover that — whatever may apply to others who are luckier — there is very little point for them in accumulating savings, because people with even quite small private resources are disqualified from benefit; and very little point in taking work on low wages, because the net increase in their available income after a normal working week would scarcely compensate them for their efforts.

The problems of our inner cities are partly a reflection of the fact that they contain a high concentra-

tion from this artificially-produced subculture, who have little or no incentive to better their lot by work or thrift. Cutting child benefit would simply add to their numbers. Raising child benefit, on the other hand, since families do not forfeit it as they better themselves, is the cheapest way of engaging despondent citizens in the healthiest processes of the economy.

The notion that child benefit might be taxed, so as to claw part of it back from the better-off, would mean that the system discriminated in favour of those who have no regular job or prefer to rely on their benefits — not very good practice for a Conservative Government. A man with children to support would pay more tax than a single man with the same income; and it would increase the stress of parents at the very time when caring for young children is keeping their mother from earning and depressing the living standards of the adult members.

If we are to enjoy further cuts in taxation, as we hope, let them not be purchased at such a price. Yours faithfully, BRANDON RHYS WILLIAMS, House of Commons, September 23.

From Mrs Gordon Begg, Sir, Mr Frank Field (September 23) states "Child benefit directly relates a family's income to the size of its responsibilities".

Perhaps it is time in an overpopulated world that a family's sense of responsibility relates to its size? Yours faithfully, ANNE BEGG, 9 Markham Street, SW3, September 23.

Snow, Selina Scott, Martyn Lewis, Pam Armstrong.

We supplied them with a director of programmes, Brian Wenham, and even a distinguished director-general, Ian Trethowan. Indeed, Michael Grade himself and John Birt are ITV alumni.

All this is fair game in a competitive business (we have given Julia Somerville opportunities which were not forthcoming at the BBC). I have no complaint, except when Michael Grade tries to take an outrageous quick trick, as he did in his article.

In the interests of fair play, I wonder whether a modest sum from the BBC's licence money could find its way to our overpressed training budget if we are to continue to serve, as we do with pride, as the West Point for television news presenters.

Yours sincerely, DAVID NICHOLAS, Editor, Independent Television News Ltd, 40 Wells Street, W1, September 24.

Beatrix Potter stories. These were read quite charmingly by Vivien Leigh, and our daughter soon was reciting parts of the tales, especially those concerning rabbit pie, with great gusto.

This daily diversion continued for six weeks through 13 countries. It was somehow reassuring to hear the delicate but precise prose of Miss Potter as we sped through areas such as the heavily fortified eastern part of Iraq, or recovered after experiencing one of several blowouts.

Perhaps the secret of the enduring nature of these tales lies in their appeal to the very young and to the middle-aged alike? Yours faithfully, ANTHONY ATEMAN, 12 Keats Close, Bedford, September 23.

Each day, upon waking from her afternoon nap, Iona would insist upon hearing her recording of

## 'Forgotten' command

From Mr Douglas Lowndes, Sir, It is unfortunate that Dr Rodney (September 23) should seem to be setting up some sort of contest to determine who is most worthy of remembrance. My friends who were killed in Coastal and Transport commands are just as dead as those who gave their lives in fighters and bombers.

But why engage in such a debate when we already have the best possible RAF memorial: St Clement Dane's church, where the floor is paved with the insignia of all the squadrons of the Royal Air Force and the walls lined with books containing the names of all those who died on operational flying duty.

What could be better? Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS LOWNDES, 1 Colville Court, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.

## Scots mortality rates

From Dr Christopher A. Birt, Sir, As the community medicine specialist responsible for the report (details, September 16) on the state of the public health in the Western Isles I must write to support the points made by Professor Tunstall Pedoe (September 21), particularly in relation to differential mortality rates from cardiovascular disease in various parts of Scotland.

The report, while noting that the crude death rate (1980-85) for coronary heart disease was as reported by your correspondent, also tabulated the standardised mortality ratios (SMR) for this period by sex for the Western Isles and Scotland as a UK standard.

When epidemiological techniques are used to identify possible explanations for variations in incidence, it is necessary to

## Theatre proposal

From Sir James Richards, Sir, Planning permission is being sought for the building of a large new theatre, with a car-park to serve it, in Battersea Park. May I plead that it should be firmly and finally rejected? Her green public spaces are among London's rare assets, the envy of other cities. They should be sacrosanct.

I well remember that when the pleasure gardens and funfair that formed part of the 1951 Festival of Britain were proposed to be located in Battersea Park, critics of the project were promised that the ground they were to occupy would be restored as parkland when the festival was over. That the "fun-fair site" should now be regarded as available building land is monstrous.

Yours faithfully, J. M. RICHARDS, 29 Fawcett Street, SW10, September 18.

standardise for confounding variables such as age. However, health services must be planned as according to real anticipated need, and in this case crude incidence rates are appropriate.

In the Western Isles, cardiovascular risk factors are currently being reviewed by two epidemiological studies, the Scottish Health Study and the World Health Organisation cardiac study. Meanwhile, the Western Isles Health Board has to plan services (especially of a preventive nature) relevant to the needs demonstrated in the public health document.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER A. BIRT, (Chief Administrative Medical Officer), Western Isles Health Board, 37 South Beach Street, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, September 21.

## Battle lines between pomp and pop

From Mr Billy Bragg, Sir, Unaccustomed as I am to reading *The Times*, much less writing to it, on arriving in Vienna from eastern Europe I came across a copy of your paper of September 21. As a "practitioner" of pop music who has yet to attain "godhood", I was mightily put off by Bernard Levin's article "Popping up all over". I feel that articles concerning the "violent rhythms" of pop music belong in 1957, not 1987.

I was astonished to see *The Times* carrying such a virulent attack on an art form that is such a fine example of "free enterprise capitalism" and comparing it so disparagingly with opera, which can only survive on vast subsidies from the state as well as huge sponsorship from the sleazy pedlars of those life-sapping, mind-numbing drugs, tobacco and alcohol.

In Vienna, only recently, due to a mishap in computerised ticket sales, the decent burghers of that city have been subjected to the unseemly spectacle of penguin-besotted "opera lovers", inflamed no doubt by alcohol, bawling for their overpriced and subsidised seats. All this for the privilege of witnessing overweight, ludicrously attired ham actors shrieking deafeningly in a foreign language while half the audience nods off due to their huge dippers.

In the black and white world of Levin's denunciation of Miss Pugacheva, and, through her, all popular music, it is clear to me that he knows as much about the medium as I do about opera, though even I am aware of the origin of the term "prima donna".

Having performed in the last two months in Managua, Washington DC, London, Rome and Budapest amongst others, the remarks of Robert Kennedy come as no surprise to me. The fact that Levin seems unable to accept that the works of Bob Marley mean more to young people around the world today than those of William Shakespeare or, I daresay, Karl Marx, proves the continuing truth of Kennedy's statement.

It is no wonder that young people prefer the global youth

## Football violence

From the Executive Director of Luton Town Football Club, Sir, The main thrust of Denis Howell's letter (September 16) was essentially correct. For close on 20 years, many of us in football have been seeking political support to curb violence in our society. Successive governments of both persuasions have done little.

The Safety of Sports Grounds Act suppressed violence inside football stadia but threw the problem into the towns and streets. An analysis of those arrested shows that far from the perpetrators coming from deprived backgrounds, many are in good jobs, some with responsible positions.

Since Heysel this Government has, at last, taken up the moral challenge of encouraging the family unit and parental responsibility. This provides the long-term solution. However, what does football do meanwhile?

In season 1985-86, we had three visiting supporters stabbed outside our ground. Do we allow this to continue and await the obvious, or accept our responsibility and take action? I think the answer is obvious.

Yours faithfully, JOHN SMITH, Executive Director, Luton Town Football & Athletic Co. Ltd, 179-183 Dunstable Road, Luton, Bedfordshire.

## Lost for words

From Mrs Mary B. Neligan, Sir, Do foreign language phrase-books really get to the nub of the problems so often faced by the holidaymaker or other traveller?

For example: how does one get across to the maid, when sign language proved ambiguous, the following vital information — possibly a matter of life and death: "The meat that you put in our freezer has been defrosted and refrozen, and you may get food poisoning!"

Yours faithfully, MARY B. NELIGAN, Court House, Brook Close, Holcombe, Dawlish, Devon.

## Cutting question

From Mr David Podro, Sir, We must be one of the Post Office's biggest clients. One day this week, on telephoning to ask why our post had not been delivered, we were informed that our postman was on holiday. What it is to be indispensable! Yours faithfully, DAVID PODRO, International Press-Cutting Bureau, 224/236 Watford Road, SE17, September 18.

## Left right behind

From Mr David J. Phillips, Sir, In reply to your correspondent, David Ealey (September 22) and his confusion over political definitions, perhaps this will help.

The broad left, who have a loaf, will share half of it. The soft left will give two thirds away. The far left will give it all away and demand more. The hard left want to run the bakery. The extreme left have their eye on the cakes! Yours faithfully, DAVID J. PHILLIPS, 14 Lansdowne Terrace, Worcester.

culture, which talks across boundaries about universal emotions, to the jaded rhetoric of their elders, who insist that we must arm ourselves with unspeakable and unusable weapons at absurd costs in order to save the world!

Pop stardom may well be a trivial thing, but I can assure Levin of this: long after 19th-century opera has ceased to have relevance to their lives, young people will continue to try and make some sense out of their predicament by making music which will upset their elders.

And, by the way, Bernard, just what is a upas tree? I believe it was I who first wrote "Those whom the gods would make pompous, they first make to hate pop music".

Yours faithfully, BILLY BRAGG, Hotel Post, Fleischmarkt 24, 1010 Vienna, Austria.

## ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 26 1966

In today's world of whirling satellites the laying of a transatlantic telephone cable may seem comparatively trivial; it was not so seen at the time — it was a considerable feat of undersea engineering.

## NEW TRANSATLANTIC TELEPHONE CABLE

From Our Special Correspondent

With a certainty that the transatlantic radio system could not have guaranteed, the newly laid submarine telephone cables linking Britain and America were used — precisely on time in London yesterday — to open the lines for public service. And so a new era in world telecommunications was ushered in.

The inauguration of the cable system, the first physical circuit to carry speech across the Atlantic, was carried out simultaneously in New York and Ottawa (where the sun had not yet reached its meridian) and at Lancaster House (with tea in the offing).

Congratulations were exchanged between Dr. Hill, the Postmaster-General, Mr. C. F. Craig, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, Mr. G. C. McConomy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, and Mr. G. E. Marler, Canadian Minister of Transport. Dr. Hill described the enterprise, which had been completed two months ahead of schedule, as a "first class example of international cooperation."

Your Correspondent spoke to New York over the new cable circuit after the ceremony, and conversation was as loud and clear as between two adjacent rooms.

From now on voices will be carried securely and without interruption through the British-built coaxial cable that rests on the ocean bed between Oban in Scotland and Clanzville, Newfoundland.

It is the longest submarine telephone system yet attempted...

## CHAIN OF AMPLIFIERS

Throughout the 2,000-mile lengths of each deep water cable American repeaters, or amplifiers, have been inserted at intervals of about 37 miles to re-establish the voice intensity as distance increases. Thus the signals emerging from the ocean at either terminal, before being fed into the continental telephone networks, will have about the same strength as when they started their long submarine journey.

Just before the system was inaugurated — a brief, informal ceremony held under a blaze of light for the benefit of television and the cinema cameras — Dr. Hill recalled that it was the result of joint efforts of the British Post Office, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and the Canadian Overseas Telecommunications Corporation.

It was, he emphasized, "a monument of international co-operation between a British Government department, a great private company in America and a public corporation in Canada." When the contract was signed in November, 1963, the British factory which was to make all but 400 miles of the 4,000 nautical miles of the cable, was little more than a series of damaged sheds; the American repeater factory, too, was little more than a shambles. Yet the project had been completed just over two months before the target date of December 1, 1966.

Mr. Winthrop Aldrich, United States Ambassador, said he was "very happy to be present on this historic occasion when the labours of engineers, scientists, factory workers, and seamen have in so short a time turned the dream of a transatlantic telephone cable into reality." It was jointly owned, jointly designed and constructed and would be jointly maintained, he said...

The cables, which were laid by H.M. Telegraph Ship Monarch — the largest cable ship in the world and the only vessel capable of doing the job — will provide 35 simultaneous telephone channels and a number of telegraph circuits to supplement the existing cables between Britain and Canada...















September 26-October 2, 1987

# SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE  
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

## THE FIRST LADY DI



Diana Cooper is recalled in a new scrapbook by her grand-daughter Artemis (above). Libby Purves turned the pages

As Artemis Cooper is the only granddaughter of Lady Diana Cooper, editor of her love letters and author of the new *Diana Cooper Scrapbook*, I thought it would be nice to photograph her in one of the statuesque poses favoured by her ancestor: reclining on a chaise longue, perhaps, or clutching her breast in a theatrical gesture. Artemis was reluctant.

"Well, the thing is, you see, I wouldn't be able to smile. She never smiled for photographs: said it was vulgar, and that one looked more beautiful if one didn't."

I flipped through the book again, and found that she was quite right. The toothy grin is a very modern aid to beauty: in the Twenties and Thirties, when Diana Cooper was the darling of London society and the toast of Paris, a professional beauty's repertoire included soulfulness, queenly disdain and a slight Mona Lisa smirk but even when pictured throwing an arm round some dear friend at San Vigilio, or "playing" with her baffled-looking

baby John Julius (now Lord Norwich), Diana Cooper did not smile. She posed, instead, one Bahamian holiday snap reveals that she was capable without cracking up in vulgar laughter, of striking a Madame Recamier attitude even when leaning on the corpse of a gigantic dead shark. Caught, of course, by herself.

Smiling Artemis, at home in her little terrace house in Fulham, is wise enough not to try to compete with her late legendary grandmother. "I spent a lot of time with her when I was young, seven and eight, and my own parents were abroad. She was wonderful to me, taught me all the Greek legends, poems, bits of Shakespeare; but like all gifts of the gods, someone like that is a bit of a two-edged sword. I would look at this woman, with her wonderful eyes, shining white skin, great beauty, and I would feel small and grey and rather mousy; and wonder, 'Oh, how will I ever be as admired as Diana?'"

She was not a cosy granny, any more than she had been a cosy mother to her son. "She found it



The Madonnas: Cecil Beaton's photographs of Lady Diana in C.B. Cochran's version of *The Miracle* were the first he took of her; many more followed as their friendship ripened

hard to celebrate childhood for its own sake. She felt that one had to get on with the job of pleasing people and being grown-up. My father was the same. And all my life, I remember everyone saying how marvellous my grandmother was. I never did come to hate her; but when I got older I found I had to get away from John Julius, Diana, and all of them."

She got her Oxford degree — "the first thing in my life I really knew that my family couldn't have fixed for me" — then took the happy trail to Kathmandu, and worked in New Mexico for a couple of years. She moved as far as possible from the modern equivalent of her grandmother's energetically social whirl, from dressing-up and posing and parties and brittle wit; and when she came back, she felt detached enough to take on the job of editing the love letters of Duff and Diana Cooper (*A Durable Fire*, published shortly before Diana's death).

The *Scrapbook*, her latest contribution to the Diana Cooper industry, is probably also her last. "I am already well ahead with my next book, which is about the political and social aspects of Cairo during the war. Everyone says, 'What next, Artemis, the *Diana Cooper Cookery Book*?' but I don't think so. Although she did make wonderful cheeses, you know," I boggled, slightly. "Oh, when she was running her wartime smallholding down in Bognor, she experimented with cabbages, everything. She really threw herself into things. That was her charm."

I had forgotten about Lady Diana's brief farming career; it gets submerged, somehow, behind the images of the bright young thing, the actress, political wife, ambassadress and socialite. But sure enough, turn the pages of the scrapbook to 1941 and there she is, photographed (by Cecil Beaton, of course) in the act of milking a cow called Princess. Marie Antoinette, one cannot help feeling, also ran.

The scrapbook format is a very useful one: it enabled Artemis, who respects her family's feelings, to combine a filially discreet and factual text with a huge number of press cuttings and photographs which are, frankly, hilarious. Some of the hilarity lies in the big-eyed, self-conscious posing of the heroine: a woman whose passport photograph for years was Cecil Beaton's portrayal of herself dressed as the painter Tiepolo's idea of Cleopatra, and who claimed in her autobiography that when the frontier guards no longer

recognized her from that picture, she would stop travelling.

But even when one comes of a harsh new generation, bored by the cult of wonderful Twenties figures, it is difficult not to find oneself sneaking over to Diana's side before long. Who could fail to like the woman who described Winston Churchill, in his boiler-suit, as "looking exactly like the good little pig who built his house with bricks?"

Besides, the main source of laughs in the book is the inspired grovelling of the contemporary press, for which you can hardly blame Diana. She was their "Lady Di" long before ours was born: there is an eerie familiarity about their adoration. Headlines like "Will Lady Di Become World's Greatest Star?" heralded her acting career as *The Virgin Queen* and as the statue of the Madonna in C.B. Cochran's production of *The Miracle*. Her arrival in America produced headlines like "Lady Diana Manners Liked Wallpapers of Hotel", and her motoring peccadilloes back in London were chronicled as breathlessly as any modern incidents of royal speeding. "Lady Diana Was In A Hurry — Pays £3 fine", or "Lady Duff Cooper In Red Slacks — Court Fine Sequel To Motoring Offence". Also wearing a large Mexican hat, she told the magistrate that she was collecting swill for pigs.

My favourite headline came during the 1924 election campaign, when she was working to win Oldham with her husband Duff. It goes "Lady Di's Grief — Little Girl Knocked Down By Her Motor". The grief of the little girl (who broke a leg) was clearly secondary. However, reading the smaller print, Lady Di was apparently nicer than the reporters: she carried the injured child into her home and stayed until the ambulance came.

Artemis Cooper, 33 and recently married, amusingly sees both sides of Lady Diana. She can laugh at the outrageousness of the aristocratic girl who, as she puts it, "went through life like a pantomime pirate", and at the same time gratefully remember the ageing grande dame whose approval she sought throughout her childhood. "The most exciting thing was when Diana once said that if she had her life to do again, she might do the things I was doing."

As a child of her generation, with a leftist social conscience, she remembers with wry affection

the arguments she used to have with the old lady about rising unemployment ("Oh, you know — all the business about how you can't get a decent housekeeper..."), and about Artemis's insistence on doing her own housework. "She'd say, 'Darling, that's terrible, you mustn't, you're educated.'"

Mrs Thatcher was a heroine of Lady Diana's in her last years. "It was partly her looks. Looks went a long way with Diana. She was always telling me to pull my hair back off my face. She thought Mrs Thatcher was absolutely beautiful."

There is a moral as well as an ideological gulf. Duff Cooper and Diana had a marriage which Artemis delicately describes as "Regency rather than Victorian". Wallis Simpson once remarked that the worst thing about having an affair with Duff was having Diana round to comfort one as soon as it was over.

"That generation," says Artemis thoughtfully, "remind me of the Pullman era, which they coincided with. It was the one moment in history when it was possible to travel very fast, yet in utter old-fashioned luxury. Before that travel was slow, and after that it wasn't luxurious. But they had both. The same with marriage: they could be very fast and loose, morally, yet have the utter dignity of an establishment marriage. None of the modern multiple divorces for every affair."

Lady Diana Cooper died in midsummer, in June last year. Artemis's may be detached and amused and adult, but her eyes still soften dangerously when she talks about it. "What still sets me off yearning for her are things like sunlight, yellow roses — bright things. For weeks I couldn't see a yellow rose without crying."

The painters are working in the narrow Fulham hallway as we walk to the door. I cannot help noticing that they are painting it the colour of pale, bright, yellow roses. "Oh, it just goes with the grey carpet," Artemis says dismissively. But her hair is now pulled back, fetchingly from her face, and draws attention to a pair of her big, beautiful eyes. After a day poring over the scrapbook, there is something oddly familiar about them.

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● The Diana Cooper Scrapbook is published on Monday by Hamish Hamilton, price £15.

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**Pavilion of splendour: but few Athenians visit the Acropolis, and the Parthenon is best seen from a distance**

Another gastronomic oasis Yerofinikas, the restaurant in the centre of town whose food is on display behind glass in the open kitchen where Greek cooks from Turkey preside. A recurring feast of mine is an unmissable visit to Yerofinikas the day after successful weight-loss diet has ended. I think I would start with Rice Oriental, a cinnamon-flavoured pilaf enriched with chicken liver and pine-nuts.



Simply Simon Holidays (01-373 1933) offers one and two-week holidays based in Athens up until the end of November. Prices from £179 for B&B, inclusive of return flights from Gatwick. Two-day breaks and longer are offered by Manchester-based Greco Holidays (061-989 8111). Prices from £225 with B&B in a three-star hotel. Yenofline Restaurant, ring 36-3 701 to book. For Greek drama tickets book through Athens Festival 32-21-459.

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## TRAVEL 2

## Totally Ecuadorable

Cindy Selby finds the Spanish for 'charm' in a land where guinea pigs are a delicacy and the water has no mind of its own

A curious thing about Ecuador is the way the water runs out of the bath. In Britain, water swirls away anti-clockwise. In Ecuador it drains clockwise. In Ecuador it dilly-dallies because the country, as its name implies, is on the Equator, where gravity exerts a weaker pull than it does at either pole.

At various points in Ecuador, where highways cross the Equatorial line, you can stand with one foot in the northern hemisphere and one in the southern. It makes an amusing holiday snap — and there won't be other tourists edging into the photograph. Ecuador is one of the least frequented countries in one of the least frequented continents. The few who do visit South America usually head for Brazil and Peru; Ecuador is little, and little known.

Admittedly it is hard to reach the flight from London to the capital, Quito, via Madrid and Bogotá takes 23 hours. The effort, however, I think is well worthwhile. It is a beautiful country — and strangely haunting. Around its central spine of Andean mountains, the highlands resemble Scottish moors, the lower slopes Alpine meadows full of buttercups and cows, while the windbreaks of eucalyptus smack of Australia, from where the trees were imported in 1836.

It is a green and undulating land whose contours sometimes stiffen into a peak — a dramatic snow-capped volcano. Ecuador has more than 30 volcanoes, including the world's highest active one, Cotopaxi, which last erupted in 1942. Since then its 19,612 feet have been fairly quiet and approachable.

Emour, the country's chief



Patience at Saquisilí Market, near Quito, a little girl waits for her mother

travel agency, organizes guided hikes with tents and pack-horses up to Cotopaxi. I joined a dozen other ramblers for a five-day trek in the foothills. We walked through the rolling moors and flower-strewn marshes of an area inhabited only by cattle-raising gauchos. In the evening we set up camp by mountain lakes and fished for trout. Wild horses, geese, bear and deer were common sights and, on one occasion, a condor wheeled grandly overhead.

Other expeditions include cruises around the Galapagos Islands; canoe safaris into the Amazon jungle of eastern Ecuador; and treks for experienced climbers to the snowy summit of Chimborazo or the crater rim of Sangay.

Yet a holiday in Ecuador is not just a walk on the wild side. I spent most of my time in the market towns and in the city of Quito. Its lofty setting



— high in the Andes and ringed by hills — reminded me of Innsbruck in Austria.

Quito's architecture, however, is distinctly Spanish — the heritage of three centuries of colonial rule. The balconies of whitewashed houses overlook narrow paved streets that wind up or down into leafy squares — each with its fountain or statue and an adjacent church.

La Compania de Jesu and San Francisco are the most

sumptuous of Quito's churches. Both are lavishly decorated in gold that the Spanish conquerors forcibly took from the Incas, who worshipped the metal as the tears of the sun.

Sightseeing in Quito is easy since taxis, like everything else, are cheap. But it is possible to walk between the prime spots, which are concentrated in the old quarter around Independence Square. The square commemorates Ecuador's liberation from Spain in 1822, but Spanish remains the national language for Ecuador's seven million people.

Unlike São Paulo and other South American cities, Quito is also quite safe. I had no qualms about strolling to restaurants at night. The city has its flaws — graffiti, traffic fumes, crumbling stone work — but no muggers. The low crime rate can be attributed to the country's sound democratic government and comparative prosperity. There is, for instance, no shortage of food. Crops grow all year round, and Ecuador is the world's biggest exporter of bananas and a major source of chocolate, coffee, shrimp and sugar.

Its lack of industry, however, holds it back, so that even the capital looks behind the times with its hat shops,

cobblers and backyards festooned with washing. Jukeboxes wheeze from smoky cafes. In the main squares shoeshine boys ply their trade and country cousins in their Sunday best smile for the hooded cameras of baggy-suited photographers.

I went on a two-day coach trip south, through the Valley of Volcanoes to the spa town of Banos, the gateway to the jungle. The sub-tropical climate of Banos nurtures poinsettias, orchids, bottle brush and angel trumpet flowers. The air is also warm enough for bathing outdoors in the thermal pools to work up an appetite for a Banos speciality, fresh toffee, and for lunch at La Cienega on the return journey. This is a graceful hacienda converted into an inn where you can stop for a meal (£3), overnight accommodation (£8), or horseriding (£2 an hour).

La Cienega is close to Saquisilí, whose market every Thursday sprawls over five separate squares and is a fine place for visitors to buy rugs, straw baskets and hats. For £3 I acquired a felt trilby — the standard headgear of the Indian traders on top of their thick black plaits.

A second tour from Quito ran 70 miles north, through ravines and mountains, to the town of Otavalo. It, too, has a weekly market patronized by local Indians in their regular native dress: embroidered blouses, ponchos and beads. We also visited a farm in the province and saw the guinea-pig destined for dinner.

Guinea-pigs, the national dish of Ecuador, are surprisingly good — if you can banish all thoughts of pets. If not, there are plenty of other dishes to sample. Sweet corn, avocados, pork and shellfish are the main ingredients and beer is the staple drink.

The restaurants are clean and handsome. My favourite was the Hosteria Chorlavi (another converted hacienda) where you drink aperitifs in a quiet courtyard, have lunch in an antique dining room, then take a siesta in a hammock by a stream in the garden.

For travellers, clothes are a problem. Ecuador's climate is so varied you need the lot: summer gear for the coast, long-sleeved shirts, gumboots, waterproofs (and insect repellent) for the jungle, warm clothes for the highlands, including Quito, plus stout boots for trekking.

## TRAVEL NOTES

Exodus Expeditions organizes holidays in Ecuador combining a Galapagos Islands cruise with a mountain trek or an Amazon safari. A 19-day holiday costs £1,890, including all flights. Exodus will also liaise with Ecuador's travel agents, to make a package to suit your personal requirements. Exodus Expeditions, All Saints Passage, 100 Wandsworth High Street, London SW18 4LE (01-870 0151). Entry requirements: Visas are not required but you must have a valid passport. Vaccination against yellow fever is necessary if you are arriving from an infected area. Antimalaria pills are recommended.

## More for less

Apart from a little galle confusion about the pronunciation of the company name Ibis (the British contingent favouring I as in "eye" opening and the French as in "e opened it") the official opening of its new hotel next to London's Euston station went smoothly. Rates set at £45 for a double room, and £40 for single occupancy, inclusive of VAT and service, meet the group's promise to provide all mod cons at budget prices. (A double room at the Holiday Inn at Swiss Cottage costs £103.50.) Ibis, the French owned chain, operates 200 hotels in 11 countries and is expanding fast. It is opening new properties at the rate of one every 10 days. (01-388 7777).

## High times

Heliski The A Team sounds

like the title for a sporty television series, but it is the name chosen by John Guyatt for his new, specialist ski holiday operation. Being dropped by helicopter on virgin mountain tops and skiing down under the guidance of a qualified local bergführer is the dream of many skiers. A week's heliskiing, including two hours helicopter time, guides and half-board in a four star hotel costs from £950 to £1,055. (01-950 6878).

Ski Solutions is a winter sports specialist of another kind — a travel agency dedicated to finding or designing ski holidays for individual customers or groups. 01-351 7451.

## Gift idea

Channel-hopping for Christmas shopping. Hoverspeed has a special offer of £65 day return for a car and four adults travelling from Dover to Calais or Boulogne. Day returns for foot passengers start at £9 and there is a 15 per cent

discount on duty free prices until December 31. Inquiries and reservations 0304 240241.

## Eastward Ho

According to Travelmeter — an extensive new survey designed to reveal who goes where, when and why — the Far East is the dream destination of 44 per cent of all travellers in seven European countries. Of the 210,000 adults surveyed, those earning over £30,000 picked the United States as the country they would most like to visit. South Africa topped the list of countries people would least like to holiday in. The full report is available from Research Services (01-903 1399) at £175 per copy plus VAT.

British Airways is switching its daily Barcelona flights from Gatwick to Heathrow from October 25. It will continue to fly from Gatwick to Barcelona on Monday, Thursday and Sunday. Economy returns from £82. (01-897 4000).

## TRAVEL BOOKS

It took Nick Danziger 18 months and £1,000 to hitch, walk, and ride from Britain to China, travelling through the ayatollahs' Iran and clandestinely in Afghanistan, where he spent two adventure-filled months with the rebel guerrillas. The cost was only one third of his Winston Churchill travel fellowship to follow the ancient trade routes. In personal terms it was higher. "I have become a stranger to my previous world but at the same time remain an outsider

in those countries which I journeyed through," he writes at the end of *Danziger's Travels Beyond Forbidden Frontiers*, Grafton, £14.95.

Two Constable rock-climbing guides are reissued this month. *Rock Climbing in the Lake District* goes into its third revised edition at £7.95, and the fourth edition of a companion volume on the *Peak District* costs £8.95.

*The World's Best Business Hotels* is a chunky new guide

to more than 500 hotels from Bloomsbury Publishing (£14.95). If you agree that the Hilton International is Tel Aviv's best business hotel and that Claridge's is "still the most prestigious business address in London", then this is the place to look for advice on where to stay in cities you don't know. It is edited by former *Punch* editor William Davies, which ensures that entries have a readable leavening of frivolity.

S.C.P.

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SHOPPING

OUT AND ABOUT

# A £7 million dog kennel

Once the hunting lodge of the Dukes of Hamilton, Chatelherault, near Glasgow, is now a triumph of the restorer's art, writes Anne Campbell Dixon

Next Wednesday, the Duke of Gloucester will have the unusual task of officially opening a Georgian "dog kennel" called Chatelherault, at Hamilton near Glasgow. Used as a hunting lodge, Chatelherault (pronounced "Chatlaro") was designed for the 5th Duke of Hamilton by the architect, William Adam, in 1752.

The building had a further, purely aesthetic purpose: to act as an eye-catcher at the end of Hamilton Palace's two-mile Grand Avenue, hence the dramatic outline of Chatelherault's four pavilions linked by decorative screens. As befits such a theatrical facade, it really is a facade, only one room deep, with the actual kennels and gardens hidden behind it.

In 1978, as a result of negotiations which began after the 14th Duke of Hamilton's death five years earlier, the derelict Chatelherault and 350 acres of the adjoining Avon Gorge were acquired by the Secretary of State for Scotland in a complicated settlement of death duties. Hamilton District Council agreed to take over the property, once it had been restored.

The initial outlay, by the National Land Fund, was modest enough: £82,549 for the purchase and a further £150,000 for immediate repairs. But Chatelherault had been a ruin since fire swept through it more than 40 years ago.

The project grew from a minimal rescue job into a complete reconstruction and development for leisure, educational and business use, which, over the past eight years, has totted up a bill of nearly £7 million.

The largest single item was a painstaking restoration of the gutted

building by the Historic Buildings and Monuments Directorate, at a cost of £2.8 million. Much architectural detective work was needed before the interiors could be reinstated.

Great attention was paid to detail: the disused quarry which supplied the original stone for the building was reopened and, on the advice of the National Geological Survey, a local coal tip was combed for fragments of Cambrian Marble, a fossilized shell material, which was used to patch the chimneys.

Inside, the formal gardens are still being restored and the actual dog kennels turned into an "interpretation complex", with audio visual and lecture theatre, plus historical displays. The old game larder has become a nature study classroom for children. In addition to its use as a leisure facility for the Glasgow area, it is hoped that Chatelherault will attract business seminars, and plans are in hand for holding operatic performances there.

The Dukedom of Hamilton is Scotland's premier and oldest existing one, dating from 1643. Colourful characters perch on almost every branch of the family tree. The fourth Duke, a gentleman of the Bed Chamber to Charles II, was a dissolute rake who died in a notorious duel with Lord Moban in Hyde Park in 1711.

The 10th Duke, who inherited in 1819, was nicknamed "El Magnifico". He married the daughter of the millionaire eccentric William Beckford, and devoted his life to the embellishment of Hamilton Palace, even installing a throne room. His greatest monument, however, is the family mausoleum, which took 15



Quiet please: this life-sized wax sculpture of James Hamilton, butler at Hamilton Palace when Chatelherault was built, is one of 13 at the lodge

years and £30,000 to build. He is buried there, wrapped in tin foil inside an ancient Egyptian sarcophagus.

It was in the 19th century, under the extravagant 12th Duke, that the glories of Hamilton Palace — Scotland's largest private house — began to fade. The palace's treasures were dispersed and coalmining, which had been carried out in the vicinity since 1600, was extended dangerously near the house. By 1880, the basement was below the water table, so that servants pulling plugs out of sinks found that they filled up instead of emptying. During the First World

War, mining was further extended and the house abandoned. The demolition of the palace in 1920 was "the architectural crime of the century for Scotland", according to the present Duke, the 15th in the line, who adds, "Still, I'm jolly glad I didn't have to live there! It would have been impossible, but what a magnificent museum the house would have made".

Chatelherault is 1½ miles south of Hamilton, one mile from the M74 motorway. Admission 50p, open all year (10.30am-6pm) except Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Ring 0698 426213 for further details.



Royal accessories: (from left) the Lejeune frog mascot (£88); hedgehog (£99); and snail (£77)

## Animal crackers

Pets are this autumn's essential fashion accessory. Not the prowling, purring, pussy-footing variety, however, but creatures quaint and mite, gracing cars, clothes and executive desks.

Following in the tyre-treads of fashion-conscious young Royals, BMWs and Golds London-wide are sporting chirpy, chrome car mascots by Lejeune, and available from Cord Rail, 79 Buckingham Gate, London SW1. It may, of course, be of no particular significance that a snail caps the Duke of York's private car, nor that the Princess of Wales favours a leaping frog in preference to a corge, since Lejeune's range embraces a variety of creatures, including

**The Duke of York put a snail on his bonnet — and now everyone wants one**

hippos, hedgehogs and tortoises.

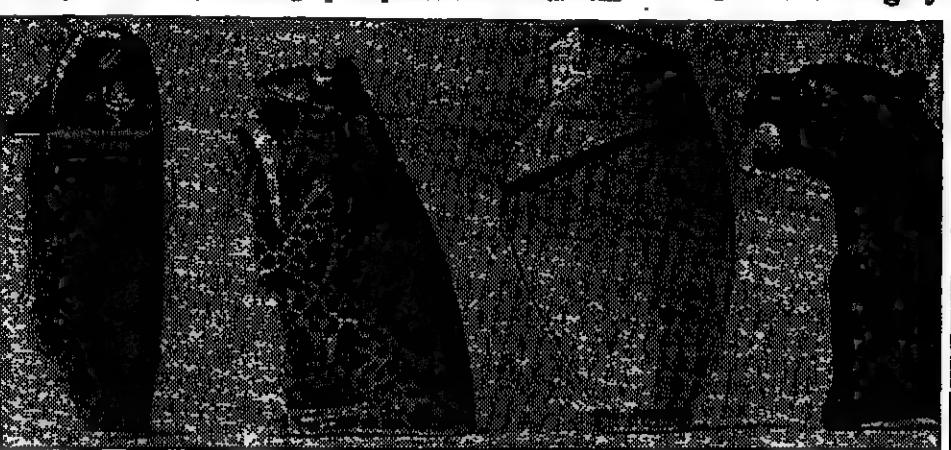
Pink Soda's zoo jewellery has been fashionable for some time but, in the wake of the sale of the Duchess of Windsor's famous collection, fiery-eyed panthers, double-headed snake bracelets, flamingos, leopards and tigers now stalk the lapels of the trendy.

Costing from around £15, a selection of these dazzling paste pieces is stocked at Zone

in Harvey Nichols and at Liberty, where more animal jewellery by other designers, such as Wright & Teague, can be tracked down.

Animals have always held a certain allure. But exactly why contemporary lighters should succumb to animal metamorphosis is a puzzle. Disguised as gorillas, horse's heads, penguins, frogs and fish, perhaps these and other personal accessories present the acceptable face of conspicuous consumption rather better than the stark black minimalist gadgetry currently flooding London's more style-conscious shops.

Nicole Swengley



Wild fire: (from left) fish lighter (£16); and frog (£23.45), both from F.F.W.D., 14a Newburgh Street, London W1; penguin (£11.50), from Oggetti, 100 Jerrys Street, London SW1; panther (£18.95) from Brats, 281 King's Road, London SW3

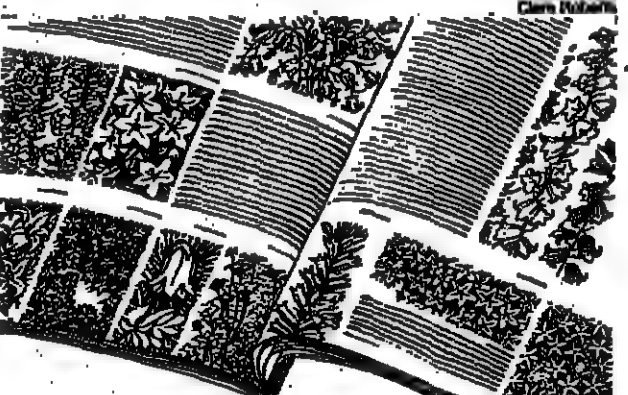
## IN THE GARDEN

### Top seeds for the first round

Not everyone complained about the summer. For gardeners, the cold spring and wet following weeks meant surprisingly beautiful flowers, fruits and foliage. I thought at first that hot-weather plants would suffer terribly, and I was not the only one to fear that nicotianas would be dwarfed and non-flowering this year. But we should have had more faith — they were almost as tall as usual and fragrant as ever.

Like the nicotianas, runner beans were slow to get growing but caught up with themselves. I am delighted with Désirée, a variety that has pretty creamy white flowers and long sweet pods. It is available from Marshall's (0945 583407) and the organic firm Atlas Seeds (40 Victoria Street, Brantree, Essex), who will be tempting us this coming year with six kinds of pumpkin. My favourite to date is the green-skinned yellow fleshed Buttercup, but the Japanese variety with pink skin sounds promising.

Already, advance releases from the seed companies are giving us a sense of what lies ahead. I am pleased that, at last, seed firms are starting to realize that many gardeners want to plant choose their own colour combinations, rather than "mixed colour" packets. Suttons (0803 62011), for example, are offering columbine, impatiens, nicotiana and some others in single



colour packs. Mr Fothergill's Seeds (Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk) has an ingenious four-section packet for different colours of Petunia Resisto F1, as well as packets of single colours.

This firm is also bringing in, "by popular demand", so they say, Painted Lady — the beautiful old runner bean variety — and their new little book, *Growing From Seed* (95p from garden centres), should be available shortly. It runs through the ground rules for different methods of seed-raising, a useful guide for beginners and side-Memoire for experienced gardeners.

There seems to be a movement away from minimum work gardens towards a more knowledgeable and skilled kind of gardening. In response, seed companies are making more unusual plants

more available. Unwins (02023 2270) has produced a special collection "for the adventurous gardener" which includes such items as Tudor Immortelles (*Xeranthemum annuum*) — daisy-like everlasting flowers with straw petals — and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), a wild plant decorative enough for any border. These will be in the shops for the 1988 season.

Next year, I shall raise the beautiful blue *Salvia patens* from seed. Despite mulching, I have twice lost this plant during winter, but I shall now grow it as a half-hardy annual, sowing in early spring with a little heat (about 60°F/16°C) potting up and putting strong young plants in the garden when the weather has warmed up — and being prepared to do the same the year after.

Francesca Greenoak

### WEEKEND TIPS

- Trim overgrown branches on fan, cord and espalier apple and pear trees. This will both neaten the appearance and help fruit to ripen.
- Weed beneath fruit bushes and remove any fallen and rotting fruit.
- Plant bedding wallflowers and polyanthus now for flowering next spring.
- Plant anemones, scillas, and grape hyacinths (Muscari) and narcissi.
- Take cuttings of penstemons, rhodochiton, acromorpha, hebe, hardy fuchsias and other plants which may fall victim to a bad winter.

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Roy Hay

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# EATING OUT

## Birds of a feather in the bag

In one of the great cities of eastern France, there is a restaurant called Les Nouveaux Abattoirs. The name, you'll agree, is a programme in itself: the absence of euphemism is heartening; there can be no mistaking the place's intent.

But a name like Lily's carries a different sack of associations, none of which is that of carnage. It should be called the Bistrot Blood: it looks pacific enough, a bit like the unassuming wine bar it formerly was — whitewashed walls, health-food chairs, not notably estimable oil paintings and a wrought-iron garden gate flung on the wall. But its menu, clumsily presented on a moveable black-

No need to hunt, fish, or shoot.

**Jonathan Meades stalks through a choice selection of game restaurants**

That partridge supposes a gentility, a mollifying gamut of motor gestures — what are called table manners, though mannerisms would be proper — between source of fuel and body to be fuelled; it supposes a sort of step up from the caves. What people do here is attack and feed. The knowledge that everyone else is at it — has to be at it because there's no way out, hardly prompts any organic, elemental cut-in. It is a rare sight anywhere, maybe unique in Britain.

The near ubiquity, near inevitability of game does something that, say, an all-beef or an all-fish menu doesn't. It turns everyone into the Cyclops or Hemingway, both of whom liked, more than anything else, to eat what they had themselves killed. Few of us apart from professional rustlers, abattoir operatives, farmers and meat traders make the connection between kine and steak, sheep and chop. But anyone can kill a bird and pluck it and bang it in a pan.

Sport is ritualized provision, an expensive form of fundamental male assertion. If at Lily's you get stuck into pigeon breast to begin and partridge to follow, you're liable to find a bow or club haunting your hands. Even if you eat (rather acidic) pickled

wild mushrooms, you're going to feel like a hairy number with a loin cloth and an affinity for the earth.

If you have game pie you're going to suss the kitchen's affinity with overhanging officiousness, the meat's over-exuberance is not mitigated by the thickish broth. If you have partridge you have to decide whether the stuffing of previously unblanched cabbage leaf is a purist play or an oversight. Benefit of the doubt tells me that the former's the case; my itch to root out charlatanism and seek out sloppiness points the other way.

Despite the formless service and the dives into the simplis-

**Between the tables prowls a chunk of micro-chippery**

tic rather than the simple this is an oddity to treasure — or at least to bear in mind for when you want to turn from the shabby driver of a merely utile car into the braying owner of an E reg. BMW who can take the head of a hen pheasant when he's three times over the limit. £69 for two.

Steph's is an oddity of another sort, a self-conscious one with endless gimmicks to make up for its cooking. It's all forest green with a frizzle of cochineal flamingoes. These birds are life size and are the sort of flaming that works for Mr Paul Raymond. They wear no clothes but are fully rigged with jewels, top hats, sophisticated cocktails.

On the tables are Rubik cubes and puzzles that require you to get three ball bearings in the same kennel at the same



time. Between the tables prowls a chunk of baby micro-chippery couffured and whiskered to look like a cat. Maybe it's intended for children or, same thing, video directors. It's certainly not intended for anyone green enough to equate restaurants with food.

The food here is an odd admix of Tourist Board English (wretched Yorkshire pudding with a floury, allegedly onion gravy, mashed black pudding with whisky poured on it) and Creole (indifferent

gumbo, unpleasantly herbed pork, pleasant enough cheese-cake posturing as key lime pie). With two beers the bill was £28 for two.

The Complete Pheasant is a topological anomaly as well as being, daffily named. It's the sort of name that sounds like a line in a Max Miller gag, and it looks as though it should be in the City — it's a basement with bar stools, stained glass, bricks and bobby plaster, prints and ancient adverts. The service is charming if gauche, the food is

picnics and all right and, in the case of the fishcakes, worth coming for. But it is, however, one of the few restaurants in Mayfair that is not greedily priced: £35 for two.

Lily's 8 Clarendon Road W11 7Z (5365) 11.30am-3pm and 5.30-11pm Mon to Sat. Steph's 33a Dean Street W1 (734 5976) noon-midnight Mon to Fri 5.30pm-midnight Sat. The Complete Pheasant: 16 Curzon Street W1 (408 1889) 11am-3pm and 5.30-11pm Mon to Sat.

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Ripe for kiwi



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THE TIMES COOK

# Surfeit soups and perfect sauces

With a glut of vegetables in the shops, says Frances Bissell, now is the time to tempt even the heartiest carnivore towards a well-made ratatouille, crumble or salad

This is the perfect time of year to make soups and sauces with the inevitable surfeit of tomatoes, courgettes, peppers and aubergines to be found in shops and gardens alike. I don't suppose this was in the collective mind of the Vegetarian Society and the other animal welfare and vegetarian groups who have joined together in declaring next Friday "Meat Out Day", but it does seem a happy coincidence.

We are not vegetarians, but we do not eat meat every day by any means. I often like to serve, as a main course, a dish containing neither fish nor meat, whether we are entertaining vegetarian friends or not. Cooking for vegetarians is not as daunting as it may seem. Remember of course, not to set a moussé with gelatine or to make a soup with meat stock. Tasty vegetable stocks can be made by cooking a pound of vegetables including a handful of chick peas and lentils in a pan of water for two hours.

In fact, vegetarians seem to be much better catered for than ever before. No longer are they restricted to vegetarian restaurants or the inevitable cheese omelette chosen from the "carnivore's menu". A number of restaurants are now offering a full selection of delicious vegetarian dishes alongside their standard menu so that a vegetarian will not feel discriminated against when dining with meat-eating friends.

The tomato soup recipe which follows comes from Leith's restaurant in London which, as an 18th birthday present to itself, has been refurbished and has launched a new vegetarian menu. The night I was there the whole table had the tomato soup, and from carnivores and vegetarians alike, it drew oohs and aahs. Tom Alf, Leith's chef, uses beef tomatoes. Use the tastiest you can find.

As an alternative starter for those who like to include some meat in their meal, I suggest a light and quickly prepared salad of chicken livers.

**Tomato Soup**  
Serves 4  
1½lb/675g ripe tomatoes  
1oz/25g chilled butter, cut into cubes  
1 tablespoon, or more if you like, finely shredded basil  
salt and pepper

Peel and de-seed the tomatoes in a sieve over a basin to catch the juices. Cut the tomato into very thin short slivers, and place in a heavy saucepan with the sieved juice. Heat gently until the tomatoes begin to "sweat" and give off their liquid. Stir in the cubes of chilled butter, one at a time so that they blend with the tomato. Stir in the basil, season to taste and serve immediately. It should still have a very fresh, uncooked flavour. At Leith's, the soup is served with a basil-flavoured cream cheese quenelle. These are quite tricky, and the mixture should be made the day before. If you do not have time, mix some finely chopped basil into seasoned cream cheese and place a spoonful in each bowl of soup as you serve it.

**Cream Cheese Quenelles**  
Serves 4  
1oz/25g butter  
2 egg yolks  
1½oz/35g soft white breadcrumbs  
¾oz/90g cream cheese  
1 tablespoon finely shredded and chopped basil

Beat the butter and the egg yolks until smooth. Add the rest of the ingredients and allow the mixture to rest overnight. Form into small dumplings or sausages and slide them gently into a large pan of water, held just at the boil. When they float to the surface, they are cooked and should be removed with a slotted spoon and served immediately.

**Chicken Liver and Roquefort Salad**  
Serves 4  
¾lb/225g chicken livers  
¼lb/100g Roquefort cheese



**Salad**  
lemon juice  
salt  
pepper  
lettuce, radicchio, endive, watercress, chicory

Clean and trim the livers, carefully removing any greenish parts and the sinews. Soaking them in milk for a few hours in advance will improve their colour and flavour. Dry the livers in paper towels, slicing the larger pieces in two. Cut the cheese into cubes.

Toss the salad vegetables in the oil, salt, pepper and lemon and add the chunks of the cheese. Arrange on individual plates. Put a few drops of oil in the frying pan, enough to stop the meat from sticking and, when smoking, fry all the liver for two to three minutes, shaking the pan a few times, not stirring as this tends to break them up. When ready - that is, still slightly pink in the middle when you stick a knife point in - place the liver pieces on top of the salad, pour on any pan juices and serve while still warm.

The next dish is basically a ratatouille with a crumble topping. By now the courgettes are rather large and past their best so that they are just as well combined with other ingredients: aubergines, tomatoes, peppers.

**Aubergine Crumble**  
Serves 4 to 5  
1lb/450g aubergines  
1lb/450g courgettes  
1 large green pepper  
1 onion  
1lb/450g tomatoes

**garlic seasoning**  
olive oil  
For the topping  
6oz/150g plain flour  
3oz/75g butter or margarine  
1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh herbs or 1 teaspoon finely ground dried herbs  
1oz/25g freshly grated Parmesan

Cut the aubergines into chunks.

Sprinkle with salt and let them disgorge for an hour to get rid of any bitter taste. I have found with very young small aubergines that it is unnecessary. Rinse and dry well. Meanwhile, slice the courgettes into ½in/1cm pieces. Slice the green pepper and the onion. Skin, de-seed and roughly chop the tomatoes. Crush the garlic with a little salt.

Heat the olive oil in a casserole, about three tablespoons to begin with, though you may need to add more later. Stir in all the vegetables, on a fairly high heat, until well coated with oil. Add the garlic and a pinch of pepper. Remember that the aubergines will have absorbed some salt and that you crushed the garlic with salt, so you should not require any more.

Cook gently in their own juices, either in the oven or on top of the stove, until all the vegetables are tender, but not breaking up into a purée. Transfer the ratatouille to an ovenproof dish.

To make the crumble, rub the fat into the flour with the tips of the fingers until it resembles breadcrumbs or, even better, make it in the food processor. Mix in the fresh herbs. Spoon the crumble over the ratatouille and press down lightly. Sprinkle the Parmesan over the top and bake for about 15 minutes at gas mark 6, 200°C/400°F.

Pears are particularly good at this time of year. If you have had a surfeit of luscious ripe pears served simply with cheese, here is another way of serving them, and a good one for slightly under-ripe pears.

**Caramel Pears**  
Serves 4  
4 even-shaped pears  
3oz/75g castor sugar  
3oz/75g butter  
¼pt/150ml double cream

Peel the pears, keeping the stalks on. In a heavy pan allow the sugar to melt over a very low heat. Add the butter, then the pears. Cook slowly until the pears are soft but not breaking up. During the cooking, the pears will have given off some of their juice, and you will have a good buttery syrup. Remove the pears with a slotted spoon. Reduce the syrup a little and add the cream. Bring to the boil, and cook for three or four minutes, and it will turn a rich, warm, caramel colour. Remove from the heat. Pour over the pears, and serve warm or cold.

## DRINK

### Ripe fruit from kiwi country

New Zealand winemaker John Buck and his wife Wendy live, surrounded by almost five acres of vines, in one of the wackiest and most whimsical houses I have ever seen. Skarpy, snow-white chimneys erupt from its sprawling structure like elongated light-bulbs. But Coleraine House's elevated position over New Zealand's finest red wine vineyard gives Buck an eagle's eye view of his grapes. "I can lie in bed," he says, "and if there's a bird out there, I can whip out and blast him with my shotgun."

There is nothing the least bit fanciful about the blonde, clear-eyed and direct John Buck. I first met him at vintage time, three years ago. I had been curiously promised 20 minutes for an interview but, three hours of testing and fascinating wine conversation later, I was convinced that Te Mata, situated at Hawkes Bay on the east coast of the north island, was one of New Zealand's most promising wine properties.

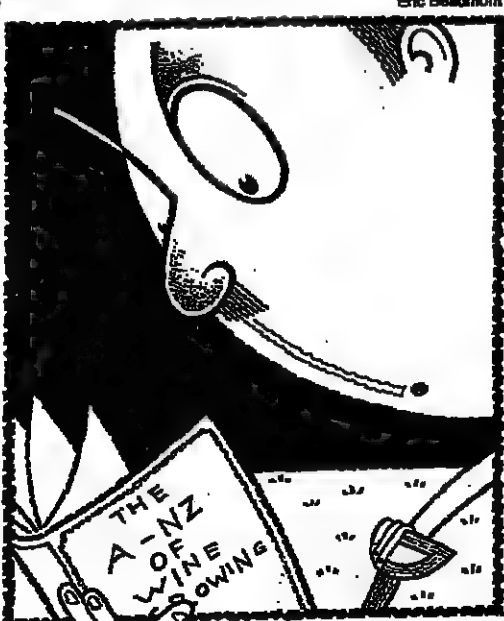
Today that promise has been fulfilled. Buck does not put this down to any special viticultural skills on his or his winemaker's part: "You've only got to read Peynaud's books from cover to cover and you've got the recipe. Winemaking is disciplined, boring and easy. The answers must lie in the grape varieties, site selection and soil."

To that end, Buck and Michael Morris, his partner, spent eight years searching for the right location. Armed with three years of European wine expertise gained working for Stowells of Chelsea in London, and inspired by Tom McDonald's 1965 McWilliams' Cabernet made from Hawkes Bay fruit, Buck had a very clear idea of what he wanted.

Te Mata - bought in 1978, and situated in an area with a climate not dissimilar to that of Bordeaux - boasts one of the very few European-style hillside vineyards in New Zealand. This European influence

After a long, painstaking search, John Buck has found an echo of Bordeaux in New Zealand

also manifests itself in the mix of Te Mata's most famous wine, Coleraine Cabernet, with its Bordeaux-style blend of predominantly Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, topped up with Merlot and a little Cabernet Franc. It may not be the first New Zealand "Bordeaux blend", but it is certainly the best.



tainly the most imitated: there are now more than 20 Coleraine style competitors now available, including the much-vaunted The Antipodean.

What separates the thousand cases of Coleraine Cabernet/Merlot every year from the Antipodean and the rest is its intensely ripe, exuberant fruit flavour, a characteristic not yet found in the other mostly leaner and less luscious New Zealand Cabernets. "Flavour," Buck points out, "is everything," and he attributes Coleraine's to its hillside situation, micro-climate, reasonably low yields and long growing season.

The same selected site philosophy extends to the

other 2,000 acres of Te Mata vines, owned by four other couples who live on the properties but leave all the vineyard and winemaking work to the Te Mata team. Together with the Bucks' Coleraine vineyard, these estates produce some 20,000 cases annually and a new winery extension to the original late 19th century cellars is being built to accommodate them all.

Te Mata wines are now on sale here for the first time. A good introduction is the '86 Castle Hill Sauvignon Blanc with its fresh, leafy bouquet and attractive soft, ripe, gooseberry-like taste. It is an easy to drink non-aggressive Sauvignon that would make a good partner with a rich fish dish such as Sole Véronique. (The Carron Wine Company, 11 Carron Street, London W1, 26.96, D Byrne & Co, 12 King Street, Clitheroe, Lancashire 26.29.)

Finer still is the '86 Elston Chardonnay whose shy, fresh pineapple-like scent leads to a smashing big, rich, pineapply palate with a gentle kiss of spicy oak on the finish. (D Byrne 29.15, Osters, 63A Clerkenwell Road, London EC1, 29.99.)

The jewel in Te Mata's crown however, and a wine comparable to a good claret is the splendid '85 Coleraine Cabernet Merlot, whose bright purple colour and delicious, intensely rich, complex cassis palate has an intriguing touch of mint (or is it eucalyptus?) about it. (La Vigneronne, 105 Old Brompton Road, London SW7, £10.85, D Byrne £11.45.)

Despite these impressive wines, Buck remains refreshingly down-to-earth about his achievements. "If you love wine and cricket, you end up in New Zealand or Australia," he says. "I actually enjoy drinking the stuff... the moment you get pompous and ponderous about it, you're finished." Quite.

Jane MacQuitty

### Toast of the boulevards

Why was a young English woman chosen to run a wine shop for one of Paris's top restaurants?

On the morning of her first day at work for the Parisian wine merchant Lucien Legrand, Fiona Beeston found herself sitting round the kitchen table in his upstairs flat with a seven-course meal laid out on the plastic tablecloth and empty glass mustard pots laid out as wine glasses. She was horrified when Legrand casually asked her to taste a wine out of the mustard pot.

"As he started to pour the wine the cook took the lid off the enormous cooking pot full of tripe and the smell filled the kitchen. I mumbled that I could not possibly taste wine under these conditions."

Legrand, she says, banged his fist on the table. "Oh you English and your habits - at eight thirty in the morning, wine is for drinking, not for spitting out." Happily, Fiona, aged 31, survived the experience, and next month she springs her own surprise on Paris when she takes over a wine shop with a difference.

The Taillevent restaurant is, by informed consent, the best of France's traditional three-star restaurants. Jean-Claude Vrinat took it over from his father 25 years ago and he has run it with the dedication and passion of a person whose whole life is food and the wine that goes with it. When he decided to extend that passion to the opening of a wine shop just round the corner from the restaurant in Rue Faubourg Saint-Honoré, it was to Fiona, then running Legrand's wine shop in the Galerie Vivienne, that he turned.

Eyebrows were raised. She was not only young but unmistakably English. But, standing in the cellars of the new shop while workmen frantically try to complete the get it ready for the opening at the end of October, Vrinat says simply: "The British know more about wines than the French - and they have a greater sense of humour. We share the same taste and approach. The idea is not just to sell bottles of wine, but to create a place where people



Fiona Beeston: "In France men enjoy women's company and are amused and delighted when a woman asks to taste their wines"

who may or may not know a lot about wine can come to exchange ideas."

He was first attracted by Fiona's wine column "Les Carnets de Fiona" in the magazine *Revue du Vin de France*. Being passionate about wine herself, she has no intention of relinquishing her column now; indeed, her career shows how determinedly she has set about absorbing every nuance of the trade. She grew up between Beirut, London, Kenya and Washington, but was always educated in French. She decided to enter "the wine lark" when as a fairly difficult 16-year-old, she says, she became enchanted by a French diplomat's conversation on wine at a dinner party.

**"Wine is such a macho business in England"**

She started in London, where she took a job as a wine importer's secretary. "I learnt all about his divorce but nothing about wine. Wine is such a macho business in England. In France men enjoy women's company - which they don't in England - and therefore they are amused and delighted when a woman turns up on their doorstep asking to taste their wines."

She thought of going to California, but decided it must be Paris because the wine-growing areas were so near at hand. She wrote to wine

producers asking to clean out their vats. It was the only way she knew to be there while the wine was fermenting. "I had to see the grapes being crushed, smell the fermentation." Although it was considered men's work, she persisted one château so much that she was accepted, and progressed from cleaning the vats to making wine.

Fiona says now that she buys wine only from people she knows. "You can only understand a wine if you know the face of the man who makes it. If he treats his wife badly the brutality will come through in the flavour." There followed two years in London, tasting and writing on wines, but in her words she "was willing from not being near the vines" and returned to Paris to work for Lucien Legrand.

Most weekends Fiona sets off by bike to visit producers in the Loire. There is a new generation there now who have gone back to tradition, she says and British buyers have been ahead of the French in noticing them. "I don't often go to wine tastings, but the other day I went to a special tasting of champagnes made in 1914. It was an emotional moment. The champagne was made by the women who had harvested the grapes while the men were fighting. Guns were going off around them and I had goose-pimples as I tasted the champagne - you could almost taste the gunpowder."

Susan MacDonald



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## REVIEW

# Old, bold and still gold

**Jeremy Flinn**

# Black power

White resigns.  
**Raymond Keene**

## Salieri's delayed victory

Teldec has engaged many of the singers from the new generation. Magda Nador, despite some squeezed high notes, shines in the Mozart; and Julia Hamari shows comic style in the Salieri. Thomas Hampson is the exemplary baritone in each opera. But best of all is Harmoncourt's own contribu-

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**John Higgins**

quartet's pianist, Marcus Roberts, and two original tunes

**Richard Williams**


## Coo de grace

After overcoming difficulties with the Royal Opera House chorus, more problems beset general director Sir John Tooley. Having installed anti-pigeon wiring on the opera house roof Sir John finds that the birds have made a new home for themselves - across Covent Garden Piazza and above his flat.

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# Death rides a Paley horse

## NEW PAPERBACKS

**The Shorter Pepys**, by Samuel Pepys, selected and edited by Robert Latham (Penguin, £9.95) Seamless abridgement of the *Prince of Diarists* to a third of the original, keeping the great set pieces and famous passages, losing the *longueurs*

But just as he claims the Middle East is "the excuse for everything", Simon Louvisse uses the political thriller storyline as mere licence for a torrent of well-aimed attacks jibes at Middle Eastern attitudes and politics. A funny book, but story and intended satire are lost in indefatigable and sometimes gratuitous

Her distinctive outlook opens out from the American Jewish life that is her inspiration, seeing wry humour in hardship and tragedy in humour.

● **The Death of Moishe Ganev**, by Simon Lovvish (Black Swan, £4.95).

"An irresistible new political thriller", puffs the blurb. And sure, TV critic Joe Deke-

**wise-cracking.**  
**Sarah Edworthy**


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## THE WEEK AHEAD



## CONCERTS

**NIGHTY MAHLER:** Giuseppe Sinopoli, still quite a controversial figure, shapes up for two unusual concerts on the South Bank, both with the Philharmonia Orchestra. Thursday's programme is devoted exclusively to Mahler's 80-minute Symphony No 9, the first movement of which Alban Berg said was "the most glorious he ever wrote". Next Saturday's concert includes Elgar, Schumann and Mozart. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), today and next Saturday.



## THEATRE

**UNDER THREAT:** Glynn Barber, best known as the Makepeace of the television series *Dempsey and Makepeace*, takes to the stage in a new production of Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*, based on the book of that name but previously staged as *Ten Little Indians*. Kenneth Alan Taylor of Nottingham Playhouse directs a cast which also includes Rodney Bewes, Geoffrey Davies and Jack Hedley. Duke of York's (01-836 5122). Previews from Tues. Opens Oct 7.



## GALLERIES

**ART ABROAD:** Josef Herman evolved his instantly recognizable brand of heroic figurative painting by watching miners at Ystradgynlais in South Wales, where he eventually settled after arriving in Britain from Poland in 1940, aged 28. A new exhibition, however, is showing less familiar pictures made during his travels in the 1950s to Israel, Burgundy and a Spanish fishing village called Torremolinos. The exhibition is at Boundary Gallery, London NW8 (01-624 1128). From Wednesday.



## ROCK

**LARRY ON THE LAMB:** Larry Blackmon, leader of Cameo and owner of the Atlanta Artists label, has his production skills featured on a plethora of forthcoming releases. Meanwhile the group's UK tour deploys the full Cameo stage production, previously considered too expensive to transport. Tomorrow, Edinburgh Playhouse (031 557 2590); Mon, Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 291768); Wed, Wembley Arena (01-902 1234); Thurs, NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133); Fri, Manchester Apollo (061 273 3775).



## OPERA

**CHINESE CRACKER:** Judith Weir had a huge critical success with her *A Night at the Chinese Opera* when it was first performed at this year's Cheltenham Festival. Commissioned by the BBC, the work takes its inspiration from the drama of 13th century China and deftly juggles of comedy and tragedy. It now has its London premiere, again in the Kent Opera production by Richard Jones, with Meryl Drower and Michael Chance in leading roles. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191), tomorrow and 3pm.



## BOOKS

**STYRING DETECTIVE:** Dennis Potter's novel *Blackeyes* (which is published on Monday by Faber, £8.95) is a gripping detective story, with the extra ingredient of literary distinction. A young novelist produces a sensational fiction of London's dark underworld. But the story of *Blackeyes* is not his, but his niece's. She is found raped and drowned in Kensington Gardens. The genre is manipulated; fictional narratives are interwoven; jokes are made; the reader is teased, entertained, and moved.

## THEATRE LONDON

**DR KHEALIA SERMON:** British premieres for two short US plays. *Dr Khealia* by Maria Irene Fornes; *A Sermon* by David Mamet. Both directed by Deborah Nitzberg. Young Vic (01-928 3363). Opens Tues. Plays Tues-Thurs until Oct 15.

**DUNGENESS - THE DESERT IN THE GARDEN:** Commissioned piece by Graeme Miller, music/theatre vision of the Kent headland shadowed by two nuclear power stations. Institute of Contemporary Arts (01-930 3647). Opens Tues.

**ENFANTILLAGES (KID'S STUFF):** Two performances of a French one-man performance by Raymond Coussie, who also wrote this re-creation of a young boy's life in a French village. Institut Français (01-589 8211). Fri and Oct 3.

**MOON DANCE NIGHT:** Yvonne Brewster directs the premiere of a "gentle satirical" play by Edgar White, about a black newsreader who "goes on holiday and accidentally trips over his roots". With Isabelle Lucas. Arts (01-636 2132). From Wed.

**TATTOO THEATRE:** Yugoslavian group brought to London from its British debut at Edinburgh Festival. Wordless story of a couple's relationship, written and directed by Mladen Meretic. Almeida (01-359 4404). Opens Tues.

## OUT OF TOWN

**CHELTENHAM:** The Prospero Suite: Premiere of drama by Warner Brown, about a film director coming out of retirement following a mauling by critics. Everyman (0242 572573). Opens Wed.

**LEICESTER:** The Traveller: European premiere of a study, by Jean Claude van Italle, of a composer who suffers a stroke in mid-life. Directed by Keith Boak; with David Threlfall, Morag Hood. Haymarket Studio (0533 537797). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

**LIVERPOOL:** Under Milk Wood: Dylan Thomas's portrait of a Welsh fishing village. Playhouse (051-709 8363). Opens Mon.

**EDINBURGH:** A Doll's House: Ibsen classic about a woman in a "suffocating marriage"; directed by Jules Wright. Royal Lyceum (031-229 9997). Opens Fri.

**WORCESTER:** The Men of Moder: George Etherege's Restoration comedy. Swan (0905 273222). Opens Thurs.

**CHESTER:** Loot: Joe Orton's black farce. Gateway (0244 40392). Opens Thurs.

## GALLERIES

**EDOUARD MANET:** Graphic works, some of which establish the origins of the Impressionist's most famous pictures. Scott Gallery, Lancaster University (0524-65201). From today.

## KNOWING YOUR PLACE

Works by 18 artists, including Adrian Berg and Simon Lewy, who were commissioned by a conservationist charity. Common Ground, to make maps of favourite places in the British Isles. Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal, Cumbria (0539-25133). From Thurs.

**JOHN SELWAY:** Gritty, satirical Baylis in mixed media, predominantly oil and pastel. Christopher Hull Gallery, London SW1 (01-235 0500). From Wed.

**JEAN DAVEY WINTER:** First one-person show in London for a painter who collages detailed maps into her work. Anderson O'Day Fine Art, London W11 (01-221 7592). From Wednesday.

## DANCE

**LONDON CONTEMPORARY:** A new spectacular Robert Cohen's *The Phantasmagoria*, with designs by Nadine Baylis and score by Barrington Pheloung, on tour before coming to Sadler's Wells in November. Birmingham Hippodrome (021-6227848) Tues-Oct 3.

**ROYAL TAI DANCERS:** Colourful troupe returns to London with a varied programme of traditional works. Sadler's Wells (01 278-9918) Wed-Oct 10.

**RAMEBERT DANCE COMPANY:** Works by Richard Alston, Christopher Bruce, Michael Clark, Siobhan Davies and Lynn Seymour make up the programme on tour. Theatre Royal Bath (0225-65065) today. Theatre Royal, Nottingham (0602-482826). Tues-Oct 3.

**SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET:** Two more performances of *La Fille mal gardée* complete the Big Top season at Leeds. Leeds Coliseum (0222-35203).

## PHOTOGRAPHY

**BLACK TRIANGLE:** Respected African photo-journalist Arnet Francis has spent a number of years discovering the roots of the slave trade and following the path that many of the slaves would have taken from Africa through Britain and on to New York. Open Eye Gallery, 90-92 Whitechapel, Liverpool, (051 709 9460) until end of October.

**LA DOLCE VITA (18):** Fellini's celebrated epic survey of decadent modern Rome, with Marcello Mastroianni as the reporter following a labyrinth of orgies, sinfulness and starting images. With Anita Ekberg, Anouk Aimée, Nadia Gray. Everyman Hampstead (01-435 1926). From Fri.

**BURGLAR:** Soviet punk comes under the microscope in this notable first feature by director Valery Ogorodnikov; part of the Metro Cinema's two-week season of Lenfilm productions old and new. Metro (01-437 0757). From Fri.

## JAZZ

**RAY BROWN:** The great bassist's trio includes Gene Harris, a pianist with a genius for the blues. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (01-438 0747). Mon-Sat.

**TEDDY EDWARDS:** In his youth, during the early Fifties, this Californian tenorist was the peer of such as Dexter Gordon and Wardell Gray. 100 Club, 100 Oxford Street, London W1 (01-636 0933).

**JIGGS WHIGHAM:** Virtuoso trombonist, once a featured soloist with the Stan Kenton orchestra. Bull's Head, 373 Lonsdale Road, London SW13 (01-876 5241). Tues, Thurs Oct 3, 5. Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476). Wed.

## FILMS ON TV

**SILKWOOD (1983):** Meryl Streep as Karen Silkwood, the nuclear plant worker contaminated by radiation. BBC1, today, 9.05-11.10pm.

**NEVER SAY NEVER AGAIN (1983):** Sean Connery, bewigged but unbowed, in his James Bond comeback, supplying the insolent style the series has recently lacked. ITV, tomorrow, 7.45-10.05pm.

**WED (7.30pm):** With Ingrid Bergman in the title role. *Tannhäuser* continues its run on Tues and Fri (6.30pm), with Klaus Kinski. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

**ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA:** New productions of Stephen Sondheim's *Pacific Overtures* (tonight, Wed and Fri, 7.30pm) and *Bizet's Pearl Fishers* (Tues and Thurs, 7.30pm). Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-636 3161).

**WELSH NATIONAL OPERA:** Tonight at 7pm a welcome return of the Poutney/Mackerras *The Cunning Little Vixen*. Janáček's fable/opera is sung in English with a cast led by Anne Dawson. Grand Theatre, Swansea (0782 475715).

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**HAYDN/MO**



## SATURDAY

## TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

## SUNDAY

Robert Bresson's reputation as a giant of French, and world, cinema rests on just 13 feature films made over a period of more than 40 years. The frugality of Bresson's output is matched by the austerity of his style. His films have a spare intensity, with all extraneous matter stripped away. He largely dispenses with music and he prefers to work with non-professional actors. Few directors make films with more of a personal stamp. Tomorrow is Bresson's 80th birthday and to celebrate the event, BBC2's excellent *Film Club* is offering a Bresson double bill, introduced by a former assistant and long standing admirer, Peter Waymark.

## CHOICE

Louis Malle. Made in 1973, *Lancelot of the Lake* (9.40pm) is a typical Bresson version of the Arthurian legend which apart from its deft handling of the characters offers great pictorial beauty. *A Man Escaped* (11.20pm) dates from 1956, Bresson's fourth feature and the one that first established his international reputation. Based on the true story of a young French Resistance fighter escaping from a Nazi prison, it eschews conventional heroics and explores a favourite Bresson theme, the quest for self-knowledge.

Peter Waymark

Lancelot (centre) played by Luc Simon, with King Arthur (r) and Gawain (l) (*Lancelot of the Lake* BBC2, 9.40pm)Timothy West as Harry King, the boss of King Double Glazing Company (*Harry's Kingdom* BBC2, 9.05pm)

## CHOICE

The double glazing salesman grandly calls it a seminar but it is really an excuse for a night at a posh hotel, to get drunk and/or bed each other's women. The women, it must be said, are not unanimously averse to the idea, though sexism is revealed in its full male chauvinist colours in the shape of gorgeous, blonde Suzie, who is paid five hundred quid for a two-minute appearance, during which she opens her fur coat to reveal that she is wearing nothing but a fur coat. I do not know whether Ron Pearson, author of *Harry's Kingdom* (BBC2, 9.05pm), has actually been to

a double glazing "seminar" but his depiction of it is horribly authentic and grotesquely funny. Not since *Minder* has a writer so deftly captured the lingo of the lower-class wide boy. But if the convention is the big opening set-piece, the rest of *Harry's Kingdom* is equally acute, as in the cold light of dawn the hung-over salesman gets the chop and their peccadilloes come home to roost. Harry ("I'm not God, I just think I'm God") is played by the ever-reliable Timothy West, and Peter Vaughan's Sid from Wood Green is a brilliant study of the uncouth.

P.W.

## BBC1

- 7.35 Open University. 7.55 Sunday Starts Here. A new series of programmes for children presented by Sarah Greene and Philip Schofield beginning with *Camera* (7.55). 8.00 *Cluedivision* 8.00 *The Muppet Babies* 8.30 *Going Live* includes advice from cast member Grace McMillan and pop group Living in a Box. 12.12 *Weather*. 12.15 *Grandstand* introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.20 *Goat Ryder* Footie. 1.00 *Football Focus*. 1.05 and 4.10 *Volleyball: The Royal Bank Cup*. 1.40, 2.05, 2.35, 3.15 and 3.50 *Racing from Ascot*. 1.55, 2.35, 3.15 and 3.55 *Boxing from Crystal Palace*. 3.45 *Hair News* and 4.00 *Score*. 5.05 *Regional news*. 5.15 *Regional news*. 5.30 *Regional news*. 5.45 *Regional news*. 5.50 *Regional news*. 5.55 *Regional news*. 6.00 *Regional news*. 6.05 *Regional news*. 6.10 *Regional news*. 6.15 *Regional news*. 6.20 *Regional news*. 6.25 *Regional news*. 6.30 *Regional news*. 6.35 *Regional news*. 6.40 *Regional news*. 6.45 *Regional news*. 6.50 *Regional news*. 6.55 *Regional news*. 7.00 *Regional news*. 7.05 *Regional news*. 7.10 *Regional news*. 7.15 *Regional news*. 7.20 *Regional news*. 7.25 *Regional news*. 7.30 *Regional news*. 7.35 *Regional news*. 7.40 *Regional news*. 7.45 *Regional news*. 7.50 *Regional news*. 7.55 *Regional news*. 8.00 *Regional news*. 8.05 *Regional news*. 8.10 *Regional 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Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1831.6 (+19.7)  
FT-SE 100  
2342.6 (+29.2)

Bargains  
47176 (39901)  
USM (Datastream)  
217.79 (+1.35)

THE POUND

US dollar  
1.6420 (+0.0045)  
W German mark  
2.9893 (-0.0090)  
Trade-weighted  
73.0 (+0.1)

Yugoslavs seek debt deferment

Yugoslavia asked Western banks yesterday for a halt in principal repayments on its \$20 billion (£12.2 billion) foreign debt and Western diplomats said it is likely that a three-year pause will be requested.

Liberty's up to £2.2 million

The return of foreign tourists to Liberty's Regent Street department store was a contributor to the sharp rise in pre-tax profit from £417,000 to £2.2 million in the six months to end-June. The interim dividend was increased from 1.8p to 2.6p.

Flat profits

Property disposals helped Boddington Group, the Manchester-based brewer, increase its interim profits to July 4, from £5.8 million to £6.1 million. Turnover remained level at £43.7 million. An unchanged interim dividend of 1.47p was declared.

Pru Herts buy

The Prudential Corporation is increasing its estate agency network with the acquisition of Collinsons, a Herefordshire estate agency with offices in St Albans and Harpenden.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2567.77 (+8.65)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	25065.86 (+150.98)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	3840.11 (+71.98)
Amsterdam	Amsterdam	308.3 (+0.2)
Sydney	Sydney	2282.8 (+5.0)
Frankfurt	Frankfurt	1989.2 (+5.3)
Brussels	Brussels	3148.4 (+8.2)
Paris	Paris	419.0 (+4.5)
Zurich	Zurich	613.7 (+1.3)
London	FT-All Share	1831.6 (+19.7)
	FT-30	1831.6 (+19.7)
	FT-100	2342.6 (+29.2)
	FT-100	2342.6 (+29.2)
	FT-100	2342.6 (+29.2)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Beeshaam	585p (+10p)
BFB Inds.	350p (+10p)
FMG	275p (+10p)
Renishaw	230p (+10p)
Britannia Secs	440p (+10p)
Kennedy Brookes	440p (+10p)
Brit Walker	905p (+10p)
Carlton Comm	905p (+10p)
Reed Int.	585p (+10p)
Nest	375p (+10p)
Wolseley	715p (+10p)
Bank Org	405p (+10p)
Tristram House	405p (+10p)
Bank of Scotland	405p (+10p)
Equity & Law	420p (+10p)
Legal & General	357p (+10p)
Conc. Gold	1420p (+23p)
FALLS	
Polyprop	395p (-17p)
TV-AM	351p (-17p)

Prices are as at 4pm

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 10%  
3-month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2%  
3-month eligible bills 9 1/2-9 3/4%  
buying rate  
US Prime Rate 8 1/4%  
Federal Funds 7 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bills 6.50-6.49%  
30-year bonds 9 1/2-9 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£1.6420	\$1.6430
DM2.9893	DM1.8202
SwF2.4811	SwF1.5110
FF9.9710	FF9.0685
Yen236.57	Yen143.57
Index73.0	Index101.2
ECU 0.66255	SDR 0.78821

GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$481.00 pm \$481.20  
close \$481.75-482.25 (261.25-281.75)  
New York:  
Comex \$481.10-481.70

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Nov) pm \$18.50/bbl (\$18.51)  
 \* Decolies latest trading price

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Money Markets 26 Commodities 28  
Foreign Exch 26 USM Prices 28  
Traded Ops 26 Share Prices 29

# City expects premium of 25 per cent on partly-paid share price BP forecasts £1.5bn profit

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

BP, Britain's largest company and the world's third-largest oil group, yesterday said the millions of small investors being offered shares should see group profits in the present year of almost £1.5 billion and a final dividend per share of 11p.

The figures revealed yesterday by Mr Michael Richardson, managing director of NM Rothschild, the Government's adviser to the issue, and BP's deputy chairman, Mr Peter Cazalet, are in line with analysts' expectations. They confirm that the company is on a strong rising profit trend which should last to the end of next year. It is virtually certain that the 32 per cent of the company's shares on offer will sell out, with half earmarked for the new breed of investor created through the Government's privatization programme and the remainder for large institutions and foreign buyers.

The price of the shares on offer will be announced on October 15 and the full prospectus, to be published in the Press five days later, will be available at post offices, banks and BP filling stations. Would-be investors who have by then registered an interest in the shares and will thus be guaranteed a share allocation, will be sent a prospectus and application form.

A minimum investment of £250 has been set and buyers will be able to pay for their shares in three instalments - the first on application, the

second next August and the final payment in April 1989. However, investors will be eligible for full dividend payments as soon as they become shareholders and will also qualify for up to 150 free loyalty bonus shares if they hold their investment for three years.

The small investor will be able to apply for shares from October 22 until close of business on Tuesday, October 27 for applications handed into branches of National Westminster Bank, the Bank of Scotland and Ulster Bank. The offer closes at 10am the next day.

In contrast to other privatization issues where investors were allocated only a small number of shares, the Government is determined that "meaningful" amounts be allotted this time. These allocations will be announced on October 30 and trading will start at 2.30pm that day.

The City expects the shares to trade at a premium of between 25 and 30 per cent, but the Treasury is confident that small investors will not take a quick profit but will take advantage of the expected dividend payments and the loyalty bonus of one share for each 10 bought and held for three years.

Mr Norman Lamont, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said yesterday:

"This is the fourth and last government sale of BP shares. It is an historic event for the Government and BP - the Government will not only be giving up its shareholding but also its special powers over the company.

"The sale will be a significant achievement in its own right. It will also be a major step in the Government's programme of selling shareholdings in private-sector companies.

"We are using this opportunity to make it easier for ordinary members of the public to buy shares and participate in the fortunes of the company.

"Eight years ago only 7 per cent of adults owned shares. Today, something like 20 per cent of adults own shares.

Although the Government expects most investors to hold on to the shares, it has made special arrangements for those who want to sell them quickly and take any profit.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, Hoare Govett and Wood Mackenzie, the two brokers handling the shares for the Government, and the network of regional advisers, have agreed, until April 1989, to charge a maximum fee of £15 on transactions worth up to £600 and £20 on deals involving between £600 and £1,200. Any share sales above that level will be subject to normal commission fees.



Global view: Michael Richardson, Norman Lamont and Peter Cazalet yesterday

## Countdown for investors

Timetable for the BP share sale over the next few weeks:

Thursday, October 15: impact day - the fixed offer price announced.  
Tuesday, October 20: prospectus published in the national Press, available from

banks and post offices and mailed to investors who have registered an interest with the BP Share Information Office.  
Tuesday, October 27: applications to be handed in by close of business at branches of National Westminster Bank, the Bank of Scotland and Ulster Bank.

Wednesday, October 28: offer officially closes at 10am for all postal applications.  
Friday, October 30: expected announcement of the basis of allocation and the determined price under the international offer to institutions. Dealings in the partly-paid shares expected to start at 2.30pm.

## Equity accepts £435m offer

By Michael Tate

Equity & Law, one of Britain's most venerable insurance companies, yesterday agreed to accept an increased £435 million takeover offer from France's biggest financial services group, Compagnie du Midi.

The offer comfortably tops the £367 million bid launched by Mr Ron Brierley's Brierley Investments earlier this month and is expected to represent a knock-out blow to the New Zealanders.

Mr Brierley owns 29.6 per cent of Equity & Law. His advisers said he had until Friday to decide his next move. Should he concede, it would be his third significant defeat in the British takeover arena, having failed to win Ocean Transport & Trading with a £300 million bid last year and having recently seen his £94 million bid for Molins beaten off.

His consolation, however, would be in the £41.7 million profit his acceptance of the French bid would yield.

Midi's first offer of £403 million, launched a week after



Pagezy: 'a common view'

the £112 bid, was rejected by Equity & Law. It is offering Equity & Law shareholders a choice. They can either take 435p a share in cash or a mixture of Midi shares and cash worth at least 446p a share. The actual terms are nine Midi shares and £3,214.65 in cash for every

1,000 Equity & Law shares.

Sir Douglas Wass, Equity & Law chairman, said: "We are very pleased to have reached this agreement. I am confident that the opportunities for the expansion of the business of Equity & Law will be enhanced within the enlarged group."

Mr Bernard Pagezy, Midi president, said: "There is clearly a common view about the opportunities which will be available to Equity & Law through the strategy of Compagnie du Midi to create a major European insurance group."

Midi wants Equity & Law as its life insurance flagship in a European insurance market expected to see a flurry of mergers in the next few years as opportunities open up in the pensions industry.

Sir Douglas and Mr Christopher Brockwood would continue to run Equity & Law as chairman and chief executive respectively. Midi has consistently stressed its high regard for the expertise of the British life insurance industry.

## Elders' profits up 120%

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Elders IXL, close to floating its main division internationally today, yesterday exceeded market expectations with a 120 per cent boost in profits to Aus\$400 million (£175.3 million) for the year to June 30.

It is now Australia's second biggest profit earner, after Broken Hill Proprietary.

Mr John Elliott, chief executive, refused to disclose the contributions from various divisions before the annual report was published but forecast "substantial improvements in the next 12 months from the brewing division".

A 12-month gestation period, he noted, was necessary before acquisitions, such as Britain's Courage group or Canada's Carling O'Keefe (acquired during the year for Aus\$3.47 billion and Aus\$413 million respectively), provided significant returns.

The brewing division was "well on the way to 'Fortifying the world'. Elders' market share in the United Kingdom was 9 per cent, with Foster's, its main rival, being sold in 11,000 pubs. This made it the most widely distributed lager in Britain.

The foreshadowed float of the Courage pubs would be effected on November 6. This would raise £800 million and would clear Elders' debts.

Elders Resources, a key element in the announced Hong Kong float of Elders Investments, performed well.

An Aus10 cent dividend was declared, equivalent to 11.4 cents per share, adjusted for the April one-for-seven bonus issue. The full-year profit was 17.9 cents (15.75 cents).

Tempus, page 27

## G-7 nations meet on exchange rates

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Ministers of the Group of Seven nations are expected to meet privately in Washington today to review their accord on exchange rates and to consider recent economic developments which have unsettled the financial markets.

Reports that the Bank of Japan had decided to push up short-term interest rates by tightening monetary policy and that President Reagan might veto the recently enacted US deficit-reduction law are certain to be priority issues on the agenda, according to a US Treasury official.

The meeting of finance ministers and central bankers of the United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan, France, Italy and Canada is the first since the Venice economic summit in June.

In numerous background briefings, officials have predicted that the G-7 will reaffirm the Louvre accord which established informal

reference zones for the dollar against the yen and the West German mark.

The accord, backed by central bank intervention estimated at more than \$70 billion, has brought relative stability to exchange rates since it was agreed on last February.

US officials said they were deeply disappointed by the slow rate of growth in West Germany estimated to be in a range of under 1.5 per cent to no more than 2 per cent.

West German ministers made it clear yesterday that the Bonn government would resist American and British demands for additional reflation at this weekend's meetings of leading finance ministers in Washington.

Speaking in Tokyo yesterday, Herr Martin Bangemann, the Economics Minister, maintained that the West German economy would grow by 2 per cent this year.

## Norwegians to raise TR trust stake

By Alison Kadie

Platou, an unlisted Norwegian investment company, has made a partial offer for TR Natural Resources Trust, an investment trust in the Touche Remont management stable. Platou already owns 28.8 per cent of TRNR and wishes to raise its shareholding to between 50 and 54 per cent.

It stresses it is happy with the performance of the trust, which has shown an increase in net asset value of 38 per cent since October last year. It wants the trust to keep its stock market listing and con-

tinued to be managed by Touche Remont.

The offer is either cash worth 94 per cent of asset value or Platou shares worth 95 per cent of asset value. Platou estimates its cash offer is worth 105p a share, valuing the trust at £130 million.

Platou shares have been valued at £271.30 each by Foudsfinans, a leading member of the Oslo stock exchange. Mr Truls Persen of Platou said he hoped the shares would be attractive to long-term institutional holders who wanted exposure to

the Norwegian market. County NatWest Securities, adviser to Platou, will match bids in Platou shares to ensure their marketability.

Platou is the second-largest investment company in Norway with stakes in brewing, financial services, maritime services, shipping and real estate.

Mr Persen said his offer was more attractive than utilization or liquidation, because Platou would carry the costs. The directors of TRNR said they were considering the offer.

## Investors look to North America's gold mines

# The only dead cert in the desert

From Colin Campbell, Elko, Nevada

There are two distinct sounds which even the hard of hearing would find difficult to ignore in the state of Nevada: the clink of one-man slot machines competing against the purr of roulette wheels - and the thud of drilling rigs and heavy, earth-moving equipment at work in the open-pit mines in their search for gold.

Wheels turn and drills dig 24 hours a day here with the same objective in mind - to make money, and lots of it. But while the gaming tables undoubtedly rely on Lady Luck and may lead to isolated fortunes, the real money is in gold mining.

The gold fields were discovered in the 1880s, but with today's modern mining methods and expertise, and with the scene rapidly turning from individual and small deposits into large and financially-solid consolidated units, the excitement is about to begin.

Shares of North American mining companies with extensive and growing exploration rights and ground in this area are attracting wide investment attention - not only from North American investors (who have long left the South African market and still find Australian gold mines too small) but from a growing band of British and Continental investors as well.

Newmont Mining Corporation, capturing the headlines in the wake of Mr T.

Boone Pickens' stalking game, is an extensive land-holder in the Carlin area of Nevada, which could be America's answer to South Africa's Witwatersrand and Western Australia's golden mile at Kalgoorlie.

With a world gold price of \$460 and cash operating costs in the \$200-announced region, gold in an uncertain mining world remains the one sure metal where money can be made.

Given the pace of development, Mr Graham Birch, mining analyst at the broker Kleinwort Greaveson Securities, says: "Quite simply, Nevada is the place to be at the moment and it is attracting the very best people and companies in the industry."

The US is the world's third-largest gold producer (after South Africa and the Soviet Union) and has pushed Canada into fourth place.

The Toronto-registered American Barrick Resources this week walked, flew and drove North American and British analysts over some of its Nevada and Utah properties, and the verdict on an investment view must be positive.

The group, started only three years ago, has a market capitalization of more than \$1.3 billion (£797 million) and was ambitious enough last year to start a serious attempt to buy Consolidated Gold Fields.

Had time been on its side and raising stock market prices not made assembly

of the final financing package somewhat difficult, American Barrick may well have gone beyond its 4.99 per cent stake. It did, however, make a handsome \$6.8 million profit.

The company has six operating gold mines (one appropriately called Goldstrike, bought in January and a deposit with particular promise); a seventh developing mine up its sleeve; and sufficient cash.

It raised Can\$116 million (£53.2 million) this week - half in Europe, half in Canada - to swell its cash balance to Can\$300 million and will, over the next three years, spend as much as US\$200 million in the Goldstrike area alone.

Few would deny that American Barrick has suffered from a credibility gap but the strategy of Mr Peter Munk, chairman and chief executive, is clear - accelerated growth through the acquisition of gold mines and continued development of existing properties.

The company has a strong and experienced mining team on the ground and gold production has increased strongly from 186,000 ounces in 1986 to 240,000 ounces this year. This is targeted to rise to 425,000 ounces in 1989 and 750,000 ounces by the 1990s.

Given the prospect of a strong and fast-rising earnings flow, American Barrick may start to pay dividends this year. A full London stock exchange listing must also be in the wings.

## Guinness Peat: Maxwell holds fire

By Colin Narborough

Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, yesterday drew back from the bid fray over the Guinness Peat group, announcing that he would only take his stake up to 15 per cent for the time being.

But he was not clearing the field for Equiticorp, the New Zealand financial services group, which has made a final offer of 115p for Peat.

Mr Maxwell, with about 11.5 per cent of Peat, said he would not continue discussions with Peat and did not "currently" intend to make an offer for the company. But he made clear that he continued to view Peat with optimism and remained interested in its future.

Equiticorp said it was delighted with Mr Maxwell's announcement, which removed the last vestige of uncertainty. It picked up a further 4.8 million Peat shares yesterday, giving it 43.25 per cent. Equiticorp has said it would be happy with a holding giving it unambiguous control.

Mr Maxwell, who earlier said he would require the backing of the banking authorities before making a bid for Peat, said he appreciated the duties of the Bank of England under the new Banking Act which comes into force next Thursday.

This obliges the authorities to go through lengthy procedures before they can approve anybody holding a stake of more than 15 per cent in a deposit-taking institution.

Mr Maxwell said it would be wrong to take advantage of the few days left before the Act comes into force and seek to acquire more than 15 per cent. Any offer made could not, furthermore, have been declared unconditional prior to official clearance. This would have confused matters even further, he said.

Asked whether he might return to the bid battle after October 1, he said there was no reason why he should not.

Mr Maxwell said he had made no formal application to be allowed to take over Peat, but saw no grounds not to make one.

Mr Maxwell, chairman of British Printing & Communication Corporation, yesterday said the company's name would be changed to Maxwell Communication Corporation.

"The company's title, the British Printing & Communication Corporation, proud though it is, suggests to many overseas customers and potential investors that company is, like British Rail, British Steel or British Coal, some kind of nationalized industry," Mr Maxwell said in a letter to shareholders.

Stock market, page 26

## Three year performance to 1st September

Trust	Percentage increase in value	Position and total number in sector
UK Growth	+289.7	6th.... 100
European	+228.9	1st..... 22
Income & Growth	+200.7	3rd.... 76
Worldwide Recovery	+180.1	4th..... 81
Pacific	+162.0	6th..... 32
Practical	+133.3	1st..... 5
International	+130.7	13th... 81
Japan	+119.8	25th... 36
High Income	+106.7	10th... 13
American	+53.4	23rd... 64

Figures: Year-end to 1 9 87 \*Source: Equal offered net recommendations

Seven of our unit trusts are among the top ten in their respective sectors. Nine have more than doubled investors' money.

Our range includes funds specialising in the major markets as well as a selection of internationally managed funds.

The Worldwide Recovery Fund, having grown by 41.1% over the last year\*, remains the most popular especially with professional advisors.

For further details about Worldwide Recovery or any of our funds, telephone 01-489 1078 or write to Oppenheimer Trust Management Limited, Mercantile House, 66 Cannon St., London EC4N 6AE.

Oppenheimer Fund Management Ltd







# Fight against fraud making headway, says DTI report

By Colin Narborough

The fight against fraud in a deregulated world appears to be having some effect, according to the Department of Trade and Industry.

The DTI's annual report, entitled *Companies in 1986-87* and published yesterday, shows that in the 15 months to the end of March, 45 companies were ordered to be wound up on petition from the DTI, which is responsible for policing business. In the 1985 calendar year, the total was only 20.

Those wound up included the much-publicized McDonald Wheeler, the Canterbury-based fund management company.

and City Investment which traded as The Share Shop.

Inquiries by DTI officials produced 16 successful prosecutions relating to 24 companies in the 15-month period, some of those prosecuted being involved in more than one company.

The number of applications for investigation under the Companies Act showed a decline to 613 from 648, but the number actually taken up showed a rise to 164 from 139.

The 15-month period was covered to allow a switch to reports based on the financial year rather than the calendar year previously reported.

The Companies Investigation Branch was also strengthened considerably to give the campaign against fraud and misconduct more credibility, with 15 extra staff recruited, bringing the number up to 47.

That butt of much criticism, the Companies Registration Office in Cardiff and Edinburgh, were also reinforced. Management was strengthened and a board set up to advise on policy and assist with marketing strategy.

The compliance rate for annual returns and accounts rose in 1986-87, with some 80 per cent of active companies filing both sets of data for the period to June 30 last year.

and enabling the office to meet its compliance target.

At the end of March this year, the number of companies registered with the CROs was 1.09 million, an increase of 13 per cent since 1985.

Allowing for the companies in the process of liquidation or removal from the register, the effective number of companies was 876,684.

In England and Wales, the number of company liquidations increased only slightly in 1986, 18,930. Winding-up orders issued by the courts also showed a slight rise to 5,761.

## Finance ministers endorse debt plan

From Rodney Lord

The Commonwealth Finance Ministers meeting in Barbados closed yesterday with a strong endorsement of the plan for relieving the debt burden of the poorest countries of sub-Saharan Africa launched by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor.

The support of the 49 countries represented at the meeting is expected to give the plan additional momentum at the meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank beginning in Washington tomorrow.

The final communiqué issued by the Commonwealth ministers said that they strongly recommended the Lawson plan to the creditor countries for early approval. However, some countries excluded from its scope felt that they also have claims.

Dr Kulu Idika Kalu, Nigeria's Minister of Planning, said yesterday that Nigeria qualified on at least two of the three criteria set out by Mr Lawson, namely the size of the debt in relation to the economy and the willingness to pursue adjustment policies. However, he said the Lawson plan was a "step in the right direction."

The difficulties of countries which were neither among the poorest nor among the Latin American debtors also received greater recognition in the course of the meeting.

Mr Lawson said there were now at least three categories of debtors — the "Baker 15" who were mainly indebted to commercial banks, the very poor countries of sub-Saharan Africa and some countries in the middle, including the Caribbean islands, who were not among the very poor but whose debts were mainly to the IMF and World Bank.

The communiqué commended "for serious examination within the international community" a plan to assist the countries in the middle.

The proposal, on behalf of the member states of the Caribbean Community by Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister of Jamaica, centres on rescheduling debt maturities over several years rather than taking each year's maturities one at a time.

The Commonwealth ministers stressed the urgency of agreeing on the large increase in the IMF structural adjustment facility proposed by Mr Michel Camdessus, the IMF managing director, and an early agreement on a capital increase for the World Bank.

## Success of BP sale just a question of time

You might never guess it from the hype, but the £7.5 billion sale of British Petroleum shares presents the Government and its advisers with by far the most challenging task since British Telecom. Though Whitehall would scarcely admit it, post-BT state share sales have all contained an element of giveaway to ensure success.

The BAA flotation broke new ground in this respect. The combination of a fixed price for private investors and a higher one for professionals exposed the giveaway element for all to see. This tactic is possible only with a primary issue of hitherto untraded stock. Where there is no established market price, one adviser's guess is almost as good as another's and who is to gainsay it? The BP sale is very different.

It is for the most part a secondary issue of shares owned by the Government. The much smaller primary issue of equity by the company has been swept up in the overall offering for the sake of convenience. In a nutshell, the problem is this. The army of new private investors has come to believe that an instant profit is guaranteed whenever the Government offers shares to the public. But how can there be an element of giveaway when BP's price is firmly established? Indeed the stock is one of the most widely followed in the London market with scores of highly paid analysts tracking the day-to-day progress of BP and the international industry in which it operates. To such animals, the sharply higher historic cost profits forecast yesterday are already old hat. Indeed, a further strong rise in profits next year is already built into the current BP share price.

It would be a break with established convention if the discount which normally accompanies secondary issues strays more than 5 per cent from the market level at the time of sale. As a line of sales patter, 5 per cent off is hardly likely to raise an eyebrow, let alone set off a stampede of buyers reaching for their cheque books. This time, the share sale will more than ever depend on the arithmetic underlying the three-stage structure of the issue.

It is worth running through a worked example to establish the possible size of the premium which might attach to the partly paid shares when dealings begin.

First some assumptions, which prior to the final pricing decision, are necessarily my own. For ease of calculation assume BP shares, currently 374p, trade at the time of the offer at 360p and that a discount of roughly 5 per cent is chosen to give an offer price of 340p. We know that the 340p price will be payable in three instalments. Let us assume a down payment of 100p, followed by two later calls of 120p each. Clearly there is a financial benefit in

paying by instalments. Buyers will be able to leave 240p of the purchase price on deposit in a bank or building society earning interest until the calls become due. With the better building society products offering grossed-up returns of 12 per cent or more for the standard rate taxpayer, the instalment facility is clearly well worth having.

The first call will be 10 months after the initial sale and the second 18 months from first dealings. Assuming an interest rate of 12 per cent, the present value of the three payments will be about 310p in order to acquire an asset which we have assumed will have a market value of 360p. This 50p difference is a combination of the 5 per cent discount and the time value due to the staged payments. It is one measure of the premium which in theory might attach to the new BP shares in their 100p paid form when dealings commence.

There is another plus point: the present value of the one-for-10 loyalty bonus for shares if they are retained for three years. For private investors this might have an initial value of 2 per cent, depending on the probability of BP shares retaining today's level. This 50 per cent premium, it must be said, is an arithmetical valuation which takes no account of other factors. Some of these will tend to reduce the theoretical premium, some might even enhance it.

For example, the time value of the instalment facility will be different for individual investors with different tax positions and investment opportunities. But other things being equal, a 50 per cent premium looks a reasonable assumption.

But dominating everything will be the underlying attractiveness of the BP stock as a long-term investment as perceived by professional investors. Due to the longstanding presence of the Government as a substantial shareholder, most funds are underweight in their holdings of BP shares.

In short, there is a natural demand from existing institutional shareholders and many new ones will wish to take advantage of a favourable opportunity to invest for the first time in one of the world's leading oil companies. On yet another arithmetical note, the partly-paid structure means that investors will receive a worthwhile income boost. Dividends will be paid as if the stock is fully paid, producing a yield in year one of roughly 10 per cent. The yield on existing stock is barely half that.

Provided the oil price holds and there is no market shakeout, the BP sale should prove attractive for stags as well as long-term investors.

John Bell  
City Editor

## Jardine up 82% at half time

From Stephen Leather

Mr Brian Powers, managing director, said the group had been helped by the strong economies, particularly Hong Kong, in which it operated, although Japan, Britain and the US had also enjoyed buoyant conditions.

The group, after several years of under-performance, was "getting back to satisfactory levels of performance," which meant better dividends. Jardine is lifting the interim dividend from seven cents to 12 cents.

Marketing and distribution were still the group's main profit sources, followed by financial services. Gammon, the construction arm, was the only under-performer.

Mr Simon Keswick, Jardine's chairman, said the securities trading and merchant banking arm, Jardine Fleming, produced "an outstanding performance."

## Central sells film arm

By Joe Joseph

Central Independent Television, the ITV contractor for the Midlands, is selling Zenith Productions, its feature film and television production subsidiary, to Carlton Communications, one of Britain's fastest-growing media groups.

The deal should leave Zenith, one of the largest independent film producers in Britain, better placed to tap the growing market for independently made programmes being urged by the Government.

Carlton, which owns 20 per cent of Central, is meeting the £6.3 million in Carlton shares.

Mr Michael Green, the chairman of Carlton, said: "I think now is the right time for a move into independent production. I am looking forward to building Zenith into a large independent production company. I think it has a management and a talent that knows how to make television programmes and feature releases. It will continue to do that, but on a broader scale."

Central said it was prompted to sell Zenith by government plans to encourage independent television producers.



Into focus: Michael Green of Carlton Communications

Both the ITV companies and the two BBC channels are being asked by the Government to commission an increasing quantity of independently produced programmes, probably comprising up to a quarter of their total output by 1992.

Central, the second-largest ITV company, said that Zenith's ability to compete in this growing British market would be severely restrained in the new environment. As a wholly-owned subsidiary of an ITV company, Zenith

would not qualify as an independent producer.

Zenith, which has produced such films as *Prick Up Your Ears* and *Personal Services* and is expected to make gross profits this year of £650,000.

Central yesterday also announced a rise in pretax profits from £5.32 million to £7.06 million in the six months to June 30. Turnover rose 33 per cent to £105.28 million. Earnings per share were up from 13p to 17.2p and the interim dividend was lifted by 1p to 5p.

## WH Smith rescue helps TSI recover

By Our City Staff

Television Services International, the film and video production group which was on the brink of collapse earlier this year, has cut pretax losses for the six months ending June 30 to £57,000 from £1.92 million.

Turnover rose from £4.45 million to £7.34 million. But there will be no dividend.

The arrival of a new management team, a cash injection from WH Smith and better prospects all helped TSI's recovery.

Mr John Jackson, who became chairman in January, said the recovery reflected lower overheads, the closure of TSI's entertainment division and the improved trading position of Mollins, TSI's main post-production company. Mr Jackson took over the reins after Mr Andrew Lee, the founder and former chairman, resigned.

TSI was put back on its feet in May after WH Smith came to its rescue by paying £7 million for a 51 per cent stake.

## Coates increases profits to £11.1m

By Alexandra Jackson

Coates Brothers, Britain's largest producer of printing inks, brought forward the publication of its interim results yesterday, to reveal a 39 per cent increase in pretax profits to £11.1 million.

This was in response to the announcement earlier in the day that Marheath, the property group, whose chairman is the Australian entrepreneur, Mr John Spalvins, had increased its holding of Coates' voting shares to 20.24 per cent.

Turnover in the six months to end-June was 4 per cent higher at £100.9 million. An interim dividend, 29 per cent higher at 2.2p, was declared.

Printing inks made operating profits of £5.1 million. Margins were sharply up in both printing inks and synthetic resins. The absence of raw-material price increases for most of Coates' products, combined with strong underlying demand, contributed to the profits improvement.

### TEMPUS

## Still waiting for Boddington to brew up a stronger profit

They did not drink a lot of beer in the North-west in the first six months of the year as Boddington Group's figures show.

The 6 per cent pretax advance was due entirely to £1 million of property profits as, at the trading level, there was an 8 per cent drop in profits on static turnover. Margins, therefore, fell by nearly a percentage point.

Beer sales were 5 per cent down, in line with the industry's experience for the region. Boddington has relatively little exposure to the growing carry-home market, while larger volumes, although growing by 10 per cent, were not strong enough to make up for the shortfall elsewhere.

The second half, however, is already ahead of last year and economic indicators for the area are looking better.

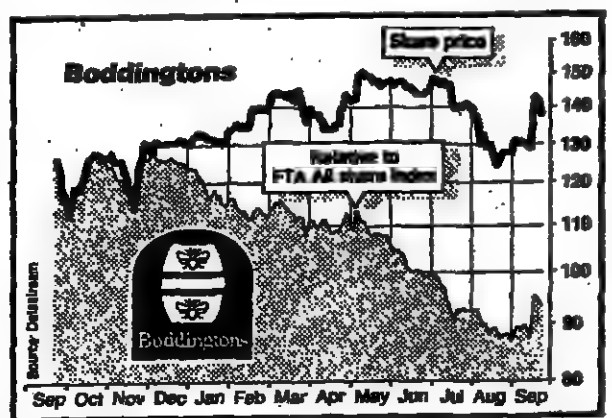
Boddington is reviewing its distribution and manufacturing operations and should soon be in a position to decide what further rationalization is necessary. The Oldham plant appears to be the most vulnerable.

The company is investing heavily on its tied estate. Capital expenditure on refurbishments and catering facilities will amount to £8.4 million this year.

Diversification away from traditional strengths has started late for Boddington. However, useful growing contributions to profits should continue to come from Henry's Table restaurants of which there will be 12 by the year-end, and 50 by 1990.

The Village Leisure operation, now consisting of two hotel-sports centres, is also promising. It will add another one by 1989.

This year the burden of capital expenditure will push



profits sideways. Including property disposals, Boddington should make £14.5 million pretax, a mere £100,000 ahead of 1986.

The shares will remain dull until the fruits of the investment programme are harvested.

### Elders IXL

Serious analysis of Elders IXL's final results will have to wait for the divisional breakdown of operations in the annual report.

The overall attributable profit of Aus\$400.9 million was comfortably ahead of expectations — James Capel, the stockbroker, was forecasting Aus\$374 million — but where the extra boost came from is anybody's guess.

The attributable profit rose 47 per cent, stripping out one-off contributions of Aus\$94 million from the sale of Broken Hill Proprietary Gold Mines and Aus\$40 million from changes to an option agreement with BHP.

The interest charge was Aus\$345 million, compared with Aus\$161 million, due to the cost of financing the acquisitions of Courage in Britain and Carling O'Keefe in Canada.

Elders' usual pattern of

high gearing after acquisitions, coming down rapidly through refinancing, has been repeated. Gearing will be much lower than at the year-end through the proceeds of the Aus\$450 million second call of March's rights issue.

The profit jump to Aus\$217 million from Aus\$29 million was due, at the associated level, mainly to the first full contribution from 18 per cent-owned BHP.

Elders has a busy timetable ahead. Courage's flotation is scheduled for November and the spinning-off of the brewing, agribusiness and finance divisions as separate 65 per cent-owned entities is next year. The shares are expected to be subdued until nearer to the reconstruction and the Aus\$1-a-share capital return, which is also being offered as a one-for-five scrip issue.

Like the Frenchmen, Equity & Law sees Europe opening up as the economies of the more recent entrants to the European Economic Community expand.

It explains why Compagnie du Midi is paying such a premium. But shareholders have no need to hurry to accept. Let Mr Brierley make his mind up first.

### Equity & Law

Mr Ron Brierley has made a fortune in this country in the past year or so by failing to take companies over. Now he can pick up a £41.7 million profit by bowing gracefully out of Equity & Law.

As the New Zealand entrepreneur slept yesterday in Sydney, his adopted home,

## Why you didn't turn £500 into nearly £200,000 in 4½ years!

Let's imagine that in the Autumn of 1982 you took out a free trial subscription to our weekly newsletter, STOCKMARKET CONFIDENTIAL. You invested £500 and four years four months later you had made a colossal profit of £198,637. Impossible? Assuming that you bought and sold at the mid price, it was possible — here's how you did it.

### FOLLOWING THE EXPERT'S EXPERT

In November 1982 you accepted a free trial subscription to STOCKMARKET CONFIDENTIAL. After monitoring the success of our tips for the first four weeks you were then confident enough to take the plunge. You invested £500 in a penny share, Samson, tipped in our issue of December 22. A few weeks later the shares had gone up from 12p to 50p and we advised you to sell. You found yourself with a tidy sum of £2,068.

Being prudent you waited a month or so before having a second go. You then followed one of our penny share tips, Dollands Photographic, and invested the whole of the £2,068. Ten weeks later the shares had gone from 78p to 155p. You sold on our advice, and your original £500 had risen to £3,924.

Faithfully following our buy/sell recommendations you then saw your capital quickly multiply:

Share	Invested	Date	Date	Buy Price	Sold Price	Capital
Samson	£500	11/11/82	11/12/82	12p	50p	£2,068
Dollands	£2,068	11/12/82	11/01/83	78p	155p	£3,924

The following of 494 tips has made for a steady gain.

After this major success you decided not to put all your eggs in one basket. So you spent £12,607 buying Lancia at 174p, keeping back £760 to take a small plunge with WSL (another profitable prospect), buying 2000 shares at 38p. But whoops! Seeing the share drop to 37p after a month a feeling of panic made you sell — losing you £54. If you had waited a few more weeks you would have taken a profit of £290. Then on July 10, you decided to sell Lancia at 40p, yielding you £27,519, and you resolved to go back in at the earliest opportunity.

### WHY YOU CAN ACT WITH SUCH CONFIDENCE

Following our tip on July 17 1985 you invested the entire proceeds from the sale of Lancia and WSL — £28,225, in Greece King & Sons. Eight weeks later, when we told you to sell, the share had risen from 162p to 216p and you found yourself sitting on a small fortune of

£35,938. Over the next 19 months your record looked like this:

Share	Invested	Date	Date	Buy Price	Sold Price	Capital
Greece King	£28,225	17/07/85	14/09/85	162p	216p	£35,938
British Petroleum	£35,938	14/09/85	11/02/86	340p	360p	£39,372
Commonwealth	£39,372	11/02/86	10/05/86	270p	277p	£39,775
WPP Group	£39,775	10/05/86	10/06/86	230p	470p	£39,581
Star Plus Group	£39,581	10/06/86	10/06/86	270p	360p	£34,621
Levy Cooper	£34,621	10/06/86	10/07/86	220p	300p	£20,642
Woolworths	£20,642	10/07/86	10/07/86	270p	270p	£20,642
Wickes	£20,642	10/07/86	10/07/86	270p	300p	£20,642

The following of 494 tips has made for a steady gain.

And that's how you could have — in the space of less than five years — turned £500 into a sum of £198,637! There would have been some tax to pay but with a capital gain of that size it's almost a pleasure to pay the Inland Revenue.

The story is imaginary but the investment facts are true. All the buy/sell recommendations you followed appeared on the dates shown in STOCKMARKET CONFIDENTIAL. And you could have done even better if you'd followed our tip to buy Acas Jewellery on 10th June. In just three weeks this share rose from 34p to 278p WHICH COULD HAVE INCREASED YOUR CAPITAL TO WELL OVER £1.5 MILLION!

### THE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS...

...is knowing the right time to sell and take profits. True, some of our shares continue to rise after we sell — normally at a much lower rate than before. Others drop back in price dramatically... Samson Group for instance has dropped from the 755p we sold them at down to 710p (adjusted for 1.5 split).

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prices rocket.

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[illegible]

10' : 7 days?

'76	Thomson	136	127	+4	e	5.9
'75	Thomson	130	121	+9		
'74	Western Union	107	97	+10	7.8	2.7
'73	Western Union	97	97	+0		
'69	Worldwide	97	101	+1		

'77	Challenger	185	190	-5	8.7	46	27.8
'76	Challenger	112	115	+1	8.7	50	
'75	Falloy (Camp)	112	115	+1	8.7	50	
'74	Harrison Crockett	122	125	-3	10.1	42	26.2
'73	Harrison Crockett	122	125	-3	10.1	42	26.2
'72	Levin (23)	225	228	-3	10.3	50	19.4
'71	Levin (23)	225	228	-3	10.3	50	19.4
'70	Greco Median	105	110	-5	3.8	31	18.7
'69	Greco Median	105	110	-5	3.8	31	18.7
'68	Do "A"	380	390	-10	6.0	5.3	18.1
'67	Do "A"	380	390	-10	6.0	5.3	18.1
'66	Park, Pick	412	417	-5	9.6	23	8.9
'65	Park, Pick	412	417	-5	9.6	23	8.9
'64	Tracy	130	130	+0	1.5	11	13.9
'63	Tracy	130	130	+0	1.5	11	13.9

185 BPC 124  
194 BPP  
197 BPC 124

[illegible]

235	710
236	347
237	276

[illegible]

1999

47	Arizona	590	710	+10	15.1	2.2	20.3
48	St. Louis	580	700	+20	4.8	1.4	20.0
49	San Francisco	570	690	+20	1.0	0.2	19.7
50	Calif.	560	680	+20	3.0	1.8	19.3
51	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
52	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
53	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
54	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
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56	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
57	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
58	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
59	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
60	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
61	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
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79	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
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94	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3
95	Calif. (AK & Sone)	275	295	+20	0.5	0.2	18.3

2000

10	Heard Bear	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
11	Hong Kong Land	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
12	China	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
13	Japan	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
14	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
15	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
16	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
17	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
18	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
19	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
20	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
21	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
22	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
23	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
24	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
25	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
26	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
27	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
28	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
29	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
30	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
31	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
32	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
33	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
34	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
35	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
36	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
37	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
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39	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
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42	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
43	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
44	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
45	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
46	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
47	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
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49	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
50	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
51	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
52	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
53	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
54	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
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58	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
59	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
60	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
61	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
62	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
63	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8
64	Land Free	557	567	+10	40	11	17.8

## SHIPPING

79-Webb (last)		540	501	0	1.8	
100 West & Country		241	280	12.1	4.3	143
<b>SHIPPING</b>						
315	Interco & Pines	630	525	+4	8.8	26.5
276	California	415	415	0	7.2	59.9
101	Clarkston (H)	187	187	-2	2.6	18.8
57	Gray (Alabama)	50	50	0	1.0	1.0
50	Gracie	750	750	-5	30.5	18.1
67	Jacob (Ala)	85	85	0	2.7	39.0
11	Mercy Trucks	30	30	+1	4.4	17.0
30	Deaton Trucking	332	332	+4	12.9	39.0
533	P & Q Hldg (Ga)	737	742	+7	7.2	19.3
160	Transporter (Tulsa)	400	400	0	1.0	27.9
375	Transporter	420	420	-2	5.0	27.9
15	Transporter	600	600	0	12.3	85.4

## TEXTILES

130	Lambert Horwath	325	305	+1	10.7	2.6	16.1
131	Peters	375	377	+2	7.9	7.1	18.6
132	Stevens & Farns	320	320	0	6.6	8.4	11.2
133	Slynn	210	235	+25	...	...	28.7
134		71	71	0	...	...	...

### TEXTILES

230	Allied Text	353	373	+20	11.5	31	230
231	Beck's (John)	320	359	+39	7.5	22	110
192	Beckman (A)	163	168	+5	7.9	47	79.3
193	Beckman (B)	163	168	+5	7.9	47	79.3
137	Br Mohler	234	227	-7	81	39	12.7
138	Corah	118	122	+4	5	46	34.2
139	Corrales (Int)	329	321	-8	13.0	7.6	13.8
140	Craftsman	172	182	+10	41	23	...
141	Craftsman (J)	303	206	-97	51	22	12.3
142	Craftsman (K)	303	206	-97	51	22	12.3

**TOBACCOS**[illegible]

● Ex dividend ● Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other l Ex rights x Ex scrip or share split i Tax-free ... No significant data











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## Gold is in favour, say the experts

Gold investment offers the best long-term return in relation to all other assets, according to Michael Lamont, of Goldcorp, the London-based company writing in the latest issue of *Gold Update*, published by the International Gold Corporation. Mr. Lamont says: "A small holding of gold at this stage is a worthwhile and inexpensive hedge on the risk of being out of a bull market for gold."

In the same issue of *Gold Update* Julian Emery, of brokers T.C. Coombs, writes that a volatile but positive price trend should continue. He bases his view on the fact that influential factors remain positive, such as long-term rising inflationary trends. In addition, he says, political uncertainty caused by the situation in the Gulf could result in a move of substantial funds into gold.

Midland Bank's gold card already includes a number of perks, such as a £10,000 overdraft facility at 2.5 per cent over base rate. This week Midland announced more add-ons for gold card customers. Among these are a 15 per cent discount on travel insurance and a special mortgage rate. Customers wanting endowment or pension-linked mortgages of £20,000 or more will get a reduction of 0.25 per cent on Midland's house mortgage rate. Alternatively, they can opt for a fixed-rate mortgage without an arrangement fee.

The reduced house mortgage rate is at present 11.25 per cent (APR 11.8 per cent). The rate for the fixed-rate option is 11.6 per cent (APR 12.1 per cent) for periods between one and five years.

There is no let-up in soaring house prices, according to Abbey National, Britain's second biggest building society. Abbey says the average price of a house has risen by £2,000 to £45,000 in the past three months alone. The rate of price rises in the third quarter of this year has been strongest in Yorkshire

and Humberside with an increase of 10.3 per cent, pushing the average cost of a house here to more than £30,000 for the first time. Prices in the West Midlands and the North-West also moved up strongly in the third quarter.

The rate of price rises in Greater London, where the average house price is now £72,000, and the South-East (£66,000), has slackened slightly, but the running has been taken up by the South-West and East Anglia. Both these regions reported higher price rises compared than in the second quarter. Northern Ireland was the only region to record a price fall. The average house price in Northern Ireland is now £27,000, making it the cheapest area for housing in the UK.

In last Saturday's *Family Money* article on the payroll giving scheme it was stated that Greenpeace is not a charity and is therefore ineligible to receive tax-free funds.

Greenpeace has asked us to point out that it is eligible to receive contributions under the payroll giving scheme. The confusion arises because it is the Greenpeace Environmental Trust, a registered charity, that is able to receive tax-free contributions. Greenpeace Ltd, the campaigning arm of the organization, is not a charity and therefore is not eligible.

The National Savings Stock Register is expanding its service to personal investors. From October 9, investors will be able to purchase eligible new issues of gilts from the Bank of England, and transfer them to the National Savings Stock Register.

This facility offers three attractions: there is no commission on purchases through the Bank of England, the commission on sales through National Savings is low, and dividends are paid gross through National Savings. Purchases will be limited to £10,000 on every occasion. At the same time, National Savings is increasing the number of existing gilts on the register by 21, bringing the total to 70.

The Government is to introduce legislation to safeguard an employee share ownership tax privilege, which is under threat. Norman Lamont, Treasury Financial Secretary, said this week that employees or directors were sometimes allowed a priority allocation when an offer of shares in their company was made to the public at a fixed price.

This could confer a benefit on the employee or director where, because of preferential treatment, he receives more shares than if he had subscribed as an ordinary member of the

## FAMILY MONEY 1/2



Norman Lamont: priority public, and the value of the shares at the date they are allotted to him exceeds the issue price he paid.

In the past, the Inland Revenue has not normally assessed such benefits, but it now seems that under existing employment income law they should be taxed the individual.

To avoid this, legislation will be included in next year's Budget, but the concession comes into force officially from this week, subject to the priority allocation to employees and directors not exceeding 10 per cent of the total.

Following the enthusiastic reception by readers of *Family Money's* privatization table last Saturday, we publish an updated version of the table below in the light of the BP Pathfinder Prospectus, which appeared yesterday.

As we pointed out last week, TSB is not technically a privatization but it is often thought of in this way by private investors — hence its inclusion. TSB reports that many shareholders have not yet paid their second and final instalment of 50p per share.

share offering. The provision will apply to all public offerings of shares, not just privatizations.

Touche Ross Management Consultants estimates that complying with the Financial Services Act will cost the insurance industry at least £250 million. This figure includes the cost of authorization, review of procedures, the adaptation of systems and training.

John Harrison, of Touche Ross, says that without taking the right action now, insurance companies and brokers will find they have to spend even more. "If they don't understand the implications of the major new concept of polarization, 'know your customer', 'best advice' and 'competence', they will be leading their companies into a bureaucratic cul-de-sac."

Touche Ross has launched two guides that examine the major issues for the insurance industry of the Financial Services Act and which identify the most cost-effective ways of dealing with it. Copies of *Insurers and the Financial Services Act* and *Investment Intermediaries and the Financial Services Act* are available from Department FSA 4, Touche Ross Management Consultants, Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London.



EC4A 3TR, at £4 each, including postage and packing.

Globebank Visa cardholders are being offered the chance to win a trip for two to the winter Olympics in Canada next February. To enter the competition, customers must use their Globebank Visa card three times before October 31, 1987, answer three questions about the Olympic Games and complete a form. The winners will fly to Canada for five nights, will be given tickets to some of the events, and will receive £500 in travellers' cheques. A hundred runners-up will each receive a sports bag.

Earlier this week TSB sent reminder letters to 53,000 of its shareholders who have not yet paid. Money outstanding from the late payments amounts to £30 million.

TSB says it believes many of the overdue payments can be put down to house moves, moves abroad, holidays or illness or even the stock market's current backing of share transfer registrations. "We will show every consideration in these cases," says TSB. However, anyone who does not have a valid reason for non-payment should respond immediately or risk the loss of shares.

Issue	Issue date	Issue price (p)	Instalment due date	Current price	High 86	Low 86
BP (Petroleum) (51.5%)	Oct 79 Sept 83 Oct 87	383 435	Fully paid	374	410	212.67
British Air	Feb 81 May 85	150 375	Fully paid	513	688	430
Cable & Wireless	Oct 81 Dec 83 Dec 85	168 275 367	Fully paid	484	484	277
Amersham Int	Feb 82	142	Fully paid	640	645	385
British	Nov 82 Aug 85	215 185	Fully paid	332	359	113
James British Pet	Feb 83 Apr 84	112 270	Fully paid	632	673	273
Enterprise Oil	June 84	185	Fully paid	342	348	124
Jaguar	July 84	165	Fully paid	555	628	501
British Telecom (49.9%)	Nov 84	130	Fully paid	263	334	178
TSB	Sep 85	100	Fully paid	139	152	100
British Gas	Nov 85	135	Apr 86 (40p) (fixed)	174	209	89.91
British Airways	Apr 87	125	Fully paid	212	234	125
Radio-Phone	Apr 87	170	Fully paid	203	287.50	170
BAA	July 87	245	May 88 (140p) (fixed)	140	145	100

\* Fixed price after Oct 15. Latest share registration Oct 28. Dealings begin 2.30 pm Oct 30. 1 One-for-one swap until 1988. 2 Not technically privatization. 3 Remaining government share. 4 Two-for-one share split on May 1.

## MERCURY UNIT TRUSTS—THE PRACTICAL SOLUTION TO YOUR INVESTMENT NEEDS

If you are considering investing in a unit trust you should choose carefully the company which will be managing your money. Mercury Fund Managers is the unit trust arm of Mercury Asset Management Group plc and has built a reputation for consistent long-term performance. Mercury Asset Management is one of the largest fund management companies in the UK, responsible for the investment of over £22,000 million. It is a partly-owned subsidiary of S.G. Warburg Group plc.

Within the Mercury range there are three unit trusts which should cover most investment needs.

**Mercury British Blue Chip Fund**, particularly suitable for those who are new to stockmarket investment, invests in a spread of shares in leading British companies. Its principal aim is for long-term capital growth, but it should also provide unitholders with a steadily increasing income.

**Mercury Global Fund** offers a worldwide managed portfolio for investors who require some protection from the fluctuations of the UK stockmarket. It is ideal for those who do not have the time or expertise to manage their own investments. It aims for long-term capital growth through investment in the leading stockmarkets of the world, including the UK.

For the more adventurous investor, **Mercury Recovery Fund** aims for capital growth, principally through investment in UK companies whose shares are currently undervalued but which have good recovery prospects.

The recovery principle has proved very successful over many years, and Mercury Recovery Fund has prospered from its emphasis on individual stock selection.

Minimum initial investment is £1,000 per fund; subsequent investments may be made in amounts of at least £100. Merit awards for Savings Plan are £35 per month. Units may be purchased at the offer price and sold at the bid price. Prices and yields are published daily in the Financial Times, but without responsibility for error or non-publication. Contract notes will normally be issued within two days of receipt of stockholders' certificates. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price and an annual management charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the fund is charged, normally against income. On giving 3 months' written notice, the Managers would be permitted to increase these charges to 6% (5% for Recovery) and 1.4% respectively. The Managers are entitled to a rewording adjustment included in the bid and offer prices of up to 1% or 1.25p per unit, whichever is less. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested net of basic rate tax to increase their value and for Distribution units is distributed net on the dates below. Offer prices and gross annual estimated yields as at September, 1987 were:

The table shows just how well it has performed since its launch in April 1981, although you should remember that past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future.

### Mercury Recovery Fund Performance From Launch

	Mercury Recovery	FT-All-Share Index	Retail Price Index	Building Society
1 Apr 1981	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
1 Jan 1983	£1,439	£1,321	£1,165	£1,154
1 Jan 1985	£2,760	£2,182	£1,282	£1,318
1 Jan 1987	£5,080	£3,720	£1,400	£1,502
1 Sept 1987	£7,799	£4,573	£1,435	£1,569

All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic rate tax. Mercury Recovery Fund figures reflect the price at which units could have been sold. Source: OPAL & MICROPAL.

You should remember that the price of units, and the income from them, can go down as well as up.

To make an investment in any of these three Mercury funds even more attractive, we are offering an extra 1% allocation of units if you invest £1,000 or more before 30th November, 1987.

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Units may be redeemed at any time and payment will normally be made within seven working days of receipt of the redemption certificate. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price and an annual management charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the fund is charged, normally against income. On giving 3 months' written notice, the Managers would be permitted to increase these charges to 6% (5% for Recovery) and 1.4% respectively.

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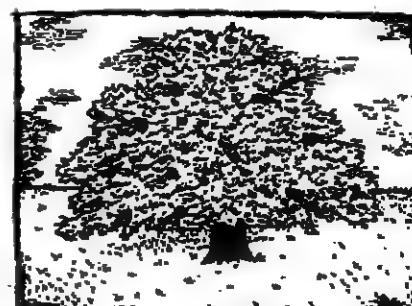
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## FAMILY MONEY/3

## How interest can rise to shock levels

## CREDIT CARDS

Interest rate calculations are something of a mystery for most people, but when Stephen Chevern, a chartered accountant from London, saw how much interest his wife Rochelle had been charged on two of her credit card bills, his first thought was that a mistake had been made.

Although the actual amounts of interest were small, Mr Chevern felt that in relation to the outstanding balances they were peculiarly high. He raised the point with Girobank Visa card and Welbeck Finance — the credit card subsidiary of the Burton Group.

The Girobank saga began in May when Mrs Chevern's payment missed the due date and arrived a day after the statement had been compiled. As a result of this delay, the statement dated May 27 showed an outstanding balance of £183.83, on which interest calculated at the prevailing rate of 2 per cent a month, amounting to £3.51, had been charged.

The next statement, dated June 27, therefore showed a credit of £183.83, received on May 28. It also showed that all the new transactions that appeared on the May statement had been repaid in full ahead of the due payment date. So far, so good.

But what neither Mr nor Mrs Chevern could understand was why the statement on June 27 had a further interest charge of £3.86. As far as they could see, this could relate only to the £183.83, on which, they admitted, they should have been charged interest for one day, and the previous interest charge of £3.51, which Mrs Chevern had omitted to pay, and had therefore been outstanding for one month.

Surely, the interest on £183.83 for one day and on £3.51 for one month could not be £3.86? When Mr Chevern raised this with Girobank, his wife's account was duly re-credited with both amounts.

A similar situation arose with Mrs Chevern's account at Debenhams. Here, to clear the account, she needed to repay £45.23 by August 3. Her payment of £45.23, however, was not received by Debenhams until August 19, two statements later. Debenhams duly applied two service charges, one for £4.23, the other for £5.70. These were based on an interest rate of 2 per cent a month. So, £45.23 owed for 16 days appeared to cost £9.93.

## Pay up on time!

At both Access and Barclaycard, if a cardholder fails to repay in full by the due date, interest is charged on the actual daily balance from the statement date, not the date the items were debited to the account.

The statement date, remember, will be later than the dates on which the various transactions reach the account. So there is no interest charged between the date of the transactions and the date of the statement on which they appear.

There is an important difference between the two card companies. With Barclaycard, no interest is charged in the month when the balance is paid in full, even if part of the balance has been carried forward and includes an interest

charge from the previous month. Access, on the other hand, charges interest right up to the date of repayment.

To demonstrate, if a cardholder fails to pay £100 due on September 1, the next statement on September 7 will show £100 plus interest, due by, say, October 1. If the customer pays in full by October 1, the next statement will still show an interest charge. This will relate to the period between September 7 and October 1.

In a situation such as this, therefore, it would be wise to clear the debt as early as possible, rather than wait for the due date.

Both Access and Barclaycard take any credits into account on receipt.



Stephen and Rochelle Chevern: two money mysteries solved

Debenhams offers to provide a written explanation of its interest calculations on request. Mr Chevern asked for such an explanation, but having failed to receive one, he telephoned the customer services department earlier this month.

His wife has now been told that the interest charges will be refunded.

Family Money decided to investigate. Unfortunately, the interest calculations vary from one credit card to another, so it is impossible to give a blanket explanation. There are, however, certain similarities.

Girobank looked at Mrs Chevern's account again, and explained how the charges had been calculated. In fact, no error had been made by the credit card company. To understand why, it is useful to go back to basics.

In common with other credit cards, such as Access and Barclaycard, the Girobank Visa gives cardholders an interest-free period of 25 days running from the date of the statement. However, depending on when a transaction reaches your account, your total free credit period could run much longer.

For example, a statement dated the first of the month may list purchases going back to the second of the previous month, yet payment will not be due until 25 days after the statement date.

The snag is, that if you do not settle your Girobank Visa account in full on the due date, you effectively lose your free credit period. The computer reads an account as either paid (in full) or not. So, even if a part payment has been made, interest is applied. The interest is calculated on an

average daily balance, determined by taking the date every amount appears on the statement.

Interest then runs to the next statement date, but as any repayment is taken into account on receipt, the average daily balance is re-calculated every time a credit reaches the account.

In Mrs Chevern's case, because she had not paid the £3.51 interest, the account had not been settled in full, and so all transactions during the period were used to determine the average daily balance. This was reduced on receipt of payment.

Girobank explained that because Mrs Chevern's payment had been delayed for only a short period it was prepared to waive the interest, on the grounds that it may have been partly responsible for the delay.

By refunding the £3.51 charge, it had to re-credit the second charge of £3.86, as this would not have been incurred if the £3.51 had not been outstanding. A spokesman for Girobank said it was policy to give the customer the benefit of the doubt.

The Debenhams credit card operates on a similar basis. Its charge is based on the average daily balance throughout the period covered by the statement, and includes not only repayments, but also any new purchases. Mrs Chevern's charge was so high because she had spent a further £245.77 between July 20 and July 24.

Even though this was not due for repayment until September 1, it was included in the calculation because the £45.23 was outstanding.

David Cavell, managing director of Welbeck, says: "In a nutshell, if you clear the account, you get a free credit period. If you don't, you get a line of credit on which interest is charged, and this applies until you clear the account."

Mr Cavell added that, like Girobank, the company always gives the customer the benefit of the doubt. In Mrs Chevern's case, agreeing to the refund was partly a goodwill gesture and partly because one substantial item had been debited to the account before the goods were delivered.

Although the methods used for calculating interest vary from one credit card company to another, there is a lesson that can be learned from the Cheverns' experience.

First, make every effort to clear your account every month, but if you cannot, try not to use the card again until you have settled in full. However, if you do use the card, but find that you can afford to repay all or part of the outstanding sum before the next due date, do so, as this will reduce your interest bill.

Amanda Pardoe

## SCHOOL FEES

C. Howard & Partners has been reinstated on the list of school fees planning specialists published by the Independent Schools Information Service.

ISIS struck the firm off the list and told it to remove the ISIS logo from its literature back in April.

The reason for this decision was simple — the firm had suffered a mass exodus of staff, as a result of which the ISIS committee felt that the new team at Howard no longer had sufficient experience of school fees planning.

Jeff Williams, managing director of Howard, was adamant that the decision was unjust, and set about reversing it with a vengeance. "I didn't let up. I wanted to persuade them that the allegation of not having experience was wrong, so I gave them a more comprehensive presentation than I think they've ever had before."

Mr Williams says he wrote to or telephoned ISIS every week. In April, ISIS had said it was possible that applications would be re-considered at a committee meeting in October, but that spring 1988 was a more likely date.

Mr Williams was not prepared to wait that long. He maintains that his relationship with ISIS was amicable throughout: "I did not seek legal advice and I did not point any pistols at anyone's head."

Nevertheless, ISIS was motivated to call a special committee meeting on September 10, for which the only item on the agenda was the Howard application to reappear on the ISIS list.

Claire Austin, of ISIS, says that, regardless of any pressure from Howard, the committee made its decision on the basis of the information supplied. Likewise, it will take this approach when Allied Dunbar re-applies.

Allied Dunbar was removed

## Howard returns to the ISIS list

from the list at the same time as Howard because there was some disquiet over their selling techniques.

Miss Austin says: "Allied Dunbar has behaved in a very gentlemanly fashion. The company accepted the decision, but said at the time that it would be seeking to re-apply."

Sue Douthwaite, Allied



Jeff Williams: "no let-up"

Dunbar's school fees consultant, said yesterday: "My breath has been taken away a bit. After the decision in April, we cleared up the problems here, and were waiting to reapply next spring."

"I didn't realize you could appeal in this way. I'm hoping to arrange a meeting with David Woodhead, the national director of ISIS, next week."

"Obviously, we'd like to get back on the list as soon as possible."

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# The windfall problem

## BORROWING

What would you do if you suddenly found yourself with a windfall of £5,000 or £10,000? Would you spend it on a cruise or try to find a more practical use for it, such as paying off the outstanding part of your mortgage?

Martin Taylor, of accountants H.W. Fisher & Co, says: "In the later years of a repayment mortgage you are paying a very high rate of interest on the outstanding capital. So we try to advise our clients to see if they have any spare cash to repay the mortgage three or four years in advance."

In many cases, however, you would be using the money more wisely if you kept the loan going, because a mortgage remains one of the cheapest forms of borrowing.

Interest rates on bank loans are generally pitched at between 2 and 4 per cent over base rates, and the loans are usually for much shorter terms than the average mortgage. So a sum borrowed at UK mortgage rates of around 11.25 per cent over 25 years is relatively cheap money.

As a result of the increasing numbers of endowment and pension mortgages sold in recent years, many homebuyers will also have to take

into account the tax relief they are getting.

For example, an unmarried couple with a £60,000 pension mortgage are getting two lots of MIRAS - £30,000 each - plus tax relief on the pension premiums.

Charles Wishart, of mortgage brokers John Charcol, says: "We would ask the client whether the terms of the borrowing are not sufficiently attractive that they could use the windfall cash better elsewhere."

You may decide, for instance, that you could make better use of the money invest-

## Selling will help to reduce the loan

ing it in the stock market, or buying more equipment for your business. If this windfall represents the only ready cash you are ever likely to have, maybe a compromise would be in order.

Geoff Paves, at the Halifax Building Society, says: "If someone came to us with £10,000 and wanted to pay off the remaining £8,000 of a mortgage, we might suggest he repay part of it and simply lower the monthly repayments."

"But because a mortgage is a cheap form of credit, it is, generally speaking, better to

keep it going and try to get a better return elsewhere."

In middle age, many people want to reduce their financial commitments significantly. Selling the large family house and moving to a smaller house or flat will help substantially to reduce your mortgage loan.

It depends on individual circumstances, but if you can afford to keep the mortgage going, you might do better to invest the money you make selling the family house in something that will generate additional income for you when you retire.

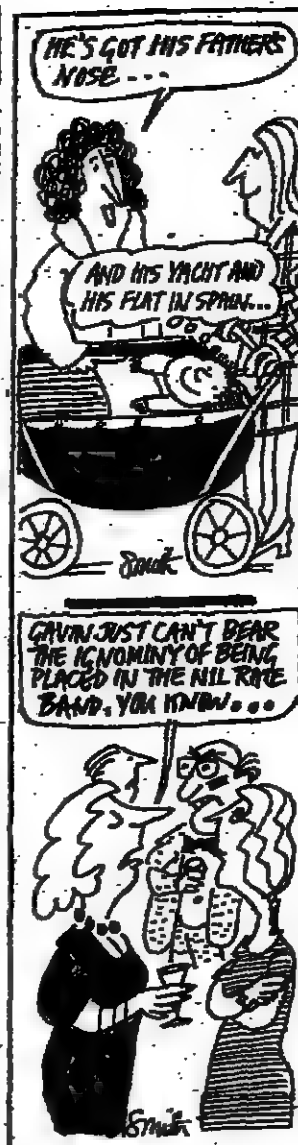
Generally, then, you should not be too keen to pay off your mortgage early, unless you feel that you could use the extra monthly cash or you simply want this financial burden off your back once and for all.

Indeed, the reality is that many people do pay off their mortgages early, regardless of whether it makes sound financial sense.

Paul Marks, at brokers Chase de Vere, says: "As a financial adviser I am bound to say that you should keep £30,000 outstanding to take advantage of the tax relief, but we very rarely come across clients who view it that way."

"They love to pay their mortgage off and be able to say that they own their house outright."

Richard Newell



# Tomorrow's tax bill cut today

## IHT

Gavin and Mary are concerned about the inheritance tax (IHT) their children will have to pay when they die. However, as Gavin and Mary are still in their mid-sixties, their own financial security may be a more pressing priority.

They have been advised to give away large sums now or at least when the first of them dies. But they are unhappy about how this could affect their income - especially in the long term. After all as one gets older, comfort becomes increasingly important and possibly very expensive.

The home that Gavin and Mary bought many years ago is worth about £250,000. There are also a flat in Spain that might fetch £50,000, and a portfolio of shares valued at £100,000. Antiques, jewellery and other items amount to roughly £20,000. The grand total is about £420,000.

As their wills are now written, the IHT on this amounts to £156,000, of which £90,000 would be taxed at 60 per cent.

Their wills say that the estate of whoever dies first will pass to the survivor. Only after they have both died will their assets pass to the children. So there would be no IHT on the first death but all their assets would be added together and taxed at the second death.

## Smaller house would release some cash

Every year the IHT rates have tended to be adjusted broadly in line with inflation: so if the estate continues to grow faster than prices generally, the potential tax bill could increase substantially.

The sheer size of this potential tax bill concerns Gavin and Mary. There seems little point in careful financial husbandry if every extra pound they save or add to their wealth will only end up as 40p in their children's hands and 60p in the taxman's.

Their income comes from three main sources. There are the dividends from their portfolio - roughly £5,000 a year, including tax credits. The present state retirement pension of £3,298 for a married couple makes a significant index-linked contribution, and there is also an occupational pension scheme. This brings in £8,000 a year, but it does not escalate at all and it reduces to less than £3,000 a year if Gavin dies before Mary. Their annual income after tax is therefore just under £13,000.

Passing down as much as possible either now or at the first death would certainly help with the IHT situation.

For example, if Gavin died first and £90,000 was passed down to the children at that time, no IHT would be payable, because the transfer would be within the nil rate band. The potential taxable estate could therefore be cut to about £330,000, on which the tax would be £102,000, thus saving £54,000.

Gavin and Mary both think they could afford to pass down about £90,000 at the first death. This could mean giving the children the flat in Spain, which produces very little income, and it would probably also mean the survivor moving to a smaller house and releasing some cash as a result of the sale.

They therefore agree to alter their wills to pass down the nil rate band at the first death. But even after the £90,000 transfers, the tax bill is likely to be a hefty £102,000.

If Gavin died first, there would be little point in passing down more than the nil rate band directly from his estate because that would mean paying some tax. It would be better for the remaining assets to pass to Mary so that she could immediately make a potentially exempt transfer to the children. This is a lifetime gift that is tax-free so long as Mary lives for seven years after making it.

So, for example, if Gavin died first, £90,000 would be passed to the children direct from his estate. The remaining £330,000 would then go to Mary, who would make a transfer of, say, £100,000 more, which would not involve any tax payments as long as she lived for the next seven years.

Her estate would potentially be about £230,000, on which tax would be £52,000.

The trouble is that Gavin and Mary are nervous about the strategy that depends on giving away so much at the first death. It looks rather inflexible and seems to involve such a reduction in the survivor's income.

An alternative approach might be to use a whole life insurance policy on their joint lives gifted in trust for the children. For example, assuming they are both 63 next birthday and are non-smokers in good health, the annual premium would be about £1,150 for a sum assured of £50,000, that is, the tax saved on the £100,000 extra transfer about which Gavin and Mary are so nervous. And for just under £2,340 a year they could cover the whole tax liability of £102,000.

The advantage of the life policy is that it pays out tax-free after they have both died, whenever that occurs. The drawback is that they are more or less committed to paying out a sum every year.

Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey

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FAMILY MONEY/5

# Still together, but splitting for tax

## TAXATION

A booklet published earlier this year by the law firm Nabarro Nathanson contains 101 handy hints on how to save tax, the first of which is "Do not marry!"

Staying single has a number of tax advantages, not least of which is that a couple can get mortgage interest relief on loans of up to £30,000 each, rather than between them.

However, if you have already tied the knot, do not immediately rush to file for divorce. For some couples, particularly those with a smaller mortgage, marriage can bring tax benefits.

For others, the bill may be reduced by opting for separate taxation.

The election must be made by both partners, not more than six months before the year of assessment, nor later than 12 months after its end. It then remains automatically in force until revoked. Again, this must be done jointly, within 12 months of the end of the relevant tax year.

Separate taxation is not the same as separate assessment, under which the same total tax is paid, but each spouse is billed for his or her own proportionate share. Under separate taxation, the couple are taxed more or less as two single people.

In other words, both receive a single person's allowance, which is £2,425 in this tax year, and further income is

### Investment cash is imputed to husband

taxed within the usual bands for each partner, regardless of how much the other earns. The married man's tax allowance, however, is lost.

For the purposes of the calculation, a wife's earnings will exclude any pension or other payment that she receives in respect of her husband's past employment, and any National Insurance benefits other than those secured by her own contributions.

More importantly, perhaps, any investment income she

may have will be imputed to her husband by the Inland Revenue. A source of some irritation to feminists is that reform in this matter has been talked of, but no decisions have yet been taken.

So when does it pay to opt for separate taxation? The primary criterion, in the current tax year, is that the couple should have joint earnings of at least £26,870, where the lower income is not less than £6,545. As Example 1 shows, this means that neither has to pay tax at more than 27 per cent, which offsets the loss of the married man's allowance.

However, there are many factors that can affect the calculation, the chief one of which is a mortgage. Loans of up to £30,000 attract tax relief on the interest payments at the highest rate available. So if a couple's aggregate income falls into, say, the 45 per cent tax bracket, relief will be given at that rate if they are taxed together.

The effects are illustrated in Example 2. Joint income is still the same £26,870, but now separate taxation is no



longer beneficial, because mortgage tax relief would be given only at 27 per cent, instead of 45 per cent at the margin.

The example, incidentally, assumes that the loan is on an endowment or pension basis, so that the interest remains constant (changes in rate apart). With a repayment mortgage, the interest paid, and hence the tax relief due, would gradually reduce over time, which would further change the picture.

With a mortgage of £30,000, and an interest rate of 11.25 per cent, gross annual interest would come to £3,375. A couple would now need joint earnings of £30,245, with the lower income at least £6,545, to gain from separate taxation.

Moreover, it can make a difference who actually pays the mortgage, as relief will be given against that person's income. If one partner falls into a higher tax bracket, he or she will have more to gain from the relief. In the case of a joint income of £30,245, the lower salary would have to be £9,920 or more for it not to matter who was the borrower.

Aside from a mortgage, there may be other factors to take into account. For example, premiums on a pension plan attract tax relief at the highest rate paid. As with the mortgage interest, aggregating both incomes may result in a higher level of relief.

But unlike a mortgage, where the higher earner may be the sole borrower, one partner cannot pay pension premiums for both.

So if the couple are taxed separately, the husband's premiums will attract relief at his top rate of tax, and the wife's at hers. It is not possible to claim all the allowance against the higher income.

Similar considerations apply to capital allowances.

### The question can be complicated

deeds of covenant and dependent relative relief. In the latter case, though, there is a small gain if the wife can claim, as the maximum allowance is then £145 instead of the usual £100.

For elderly couples, there is another possible trap. Married people who will be over 65 by the end of the current tax year may be entitled to age allowance. This is an additional personal relief, of up to £880 for a married man. However, this cannot be claimed under separate taxation.

Clearly, the question of whether separate taxation will result in a gain or a loss can be a complicated matter. If in doubt, it may be worth taking professional advice, as the tax savings could outweigh the accountant's fee.

Liz Walkington

#### Example 1: Without mortgage interest tax relief

	Main income (£)	Second income (£)	Combined income (£)
Earned income	20,325	6,545	26,870
Less personal allowance	2,425	2,425	3,795
Less wife's earned income allowance	nil	2,425	2,425
Taxable income	17,900	4,120	22,020
Tax payable at 27%	(17,900) 4,833.00	(4,120) 1,112.40	(22,020) 5,945.40
Tax payable at 45%	nil	nil	(250) 112.50
Totals	4,833.00	1,112.40	5,945.40
Total tax payable	5,945.40		5,945.40

#### Example 2: With mortgage of £30,000, annual interest at 11.25% = £3,375

	Main income (£)	Second income (£)	Combined income (£)
Earned income	20,325	6,545	26,870
Less personal allowance	2,425	2,425	3,795
Less wife's earned income allowance	nil	2,425	2,425
Less mortgage interest	3,375	nil	3,375
Taxable income	14,525	4,120	17,275
Tax payable at 27%	(14,525) 3,921.75	(4,120) 1,112.40	(18,645) 5,034.15
Total tax payable	5,034.15		5,034.15

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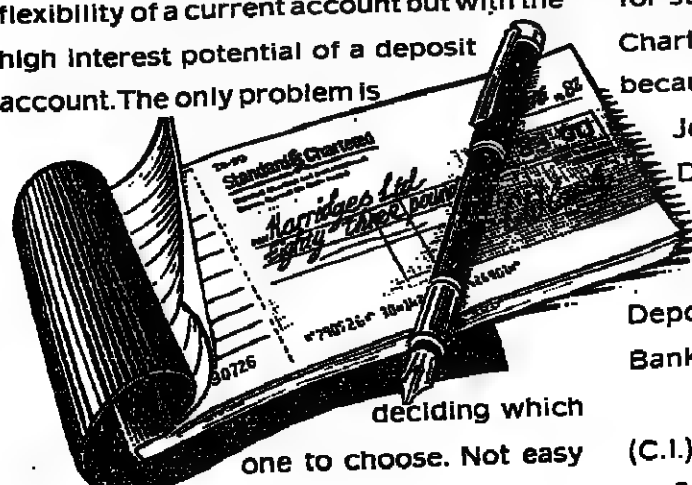
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## Companies in competition to pay out on their patients

### INSURANCE

The idea of collecting on life insurance before you die has inspired con men and Hollywood movies. But now two companies are fiercely competing with policies that enable you to do just that.

Cannon Lincoln Group's Critical Illness Cover will pay out up to half the sum assured immediately any policyholder with the necessary cover is diagnosed as suffering from a stroke, a heart attack, or invasive cancer, where the disease encroaches on the surrounding tissues, but not skin cancer, or if surgery has to be performed to treat coronary artery disease.

Abbey Life's Living Insurance plan will pay out a lump sum when the policyholder is diagnosed as having a range of

not have adequate savings or insurance to cover them against long-term illness.

Yet a recent Gallup survey showed that nearly one in two men worry that sickness will force them to give up work; and just over half the women surveyed fear that it will affect their ability to look after children.

The idea for such policies originated in South Africa and works very much like ordinary life insurance.

The moment a critical or serious illness of the kind specified in the policy is diagnosed, the sum assured is paid out.

The money could be used to try to cope with the illness and its consequences, or to improve the quality of life or the chances of the victim surviving.

In fact, in many cases persons diagnosed as having serious illness will not die immediately.

A patient can live up to 30 years or more after the first heart attack and many recover from cancer to have a healthy life.

Abbey, which claims great success with its plan since it was launched in June, says it now constitutes 10 per cent of life policy sales.

The company has aimed its promotion at the single market where the idea of the person collecting on his or her own life insurance is attractive.

It is a unit-linked whole-of-life plan and contributions are 20 per cent to 30 per cent higher than conventional whole life.

Although in theory contributions can be invested in any one of the 40 Abbey funds, mostly they are invested in the Abbey Life Managed Funds, where at present the bid-offer spread is 5 per cent.



John Davies asked

The plan is for those aged 17 to 70, with a lump sum of £100,000 available on confirmed diagnosis.

A joint plan is available for younger couples where the benefit is paid out once on the first claim.

If the awful does not happen and the policyholder does not die of the specified illnesses, then this becomes like conventional life assurance with the next of kin collecting the proceeds.

Cannon, which began offering its plan somewhat earlier than Abbey and is more than a little resentful about Abbey's claim to be the first, has something very similar.

However, Cannon's Critical Illness Cover is an optional benefit to Designer, its universal unit-linked life plan.

For a certain additional

### Aids is too unpredictable to be included in the range of diseases that qualify

premium the policyholder can add on critical illness cover.

Should the policyholder be diagnosed as having one of the illnesses specified, then he or she could receive a maximum payment of £20,000.

The cover lasts until the age of 65 for men and 60 for women. For a man aged 35 who has £50,000 life cover, an additional £10,000 critical illness cover could see premiums rise from £28.15 a month to £33.

It is interesting that neither plan covers Aids. Cannon confesses that it is just too unpredictable to be included in the range of diseases.

Mihir Bose

## Home-making starts with a good share

### PROPERTY

For many people, stepping on to the first rung of the house-buying ladder is far from easy, particularly in the South-East. The latest Halifax house price index shows that, nationally, house prices rose by 14.5 per cent over the year to the end of August 1987.

Regionally, the increases are even more startling. In Greater London house prices rose by more than 22 per cent, in the South-East more than 23 per cent, and in East Anglia more than 27 per cent.

Seven years ago, as part of the Conservative Government's determination to increase home ownership, the promise of a helping hand was extended to those wishing to buy but lacking the means.

The 1980 Housing Act enabled housing associations, traditionally providers of homes for rent, to apply for government funds to provide homes for sale, through special low-cost home ownership schemes such as shared ownership.

At present, housing associations provide homes for about a million people, most of them in the rented sector - young single people, low-income families, the elderly and the disabled. Much of their money is in government grants.

The Housing Corporation, itself a government-funded body, was set up by Parliament in 1964 to promote voluntary housing associations. It regulates associations, allocates funds and has a monitoring and supervisory role. About 2,600 associations

### Prices rising too fast is a problem

are on the register, although only about 200 are involved in shared ownership.

Shared ownership was introduced to help people who cannot afford to buy a home outright. Schemes are offered mainly by housing associations, although local authorities have also had some involvement. Through shared ownership, a share of the property is bought, and rent, which is re-assessed every two years, is paid on the remainder.

Gradually further shares are bought until the borrower owns 100 per cent of the property. The borrower owns his or her share of the property on the basis of a long lease, usually 99 years for the first owner, while the housing association or local authority retains the freehold.

When, or if, outright ownership is attained, the borrower will be granted the freehold or, in the case of a flat, a new long lease.

The advantages of shared ownership are obvious. A single person in London, where the average price of a terrace house is almost £74,000, would normally need

an annual income of more than £24,000 to obtain a 100 per cent mortgage based on three times income.

If this person could start by buying a 50 per cent share, he or she would need to be earning only £12,000.

One problem to bear in mind, however, is that of house prices rising faster than incomes, especially when only a small portion of the property is bought. While this situation continues, the ultimate ambition of owning 100 per cent of the property will be for ever out of reach.

However, the prime problem is the unavailability of shared-ownership homes. The Housing Corporation's 1987



Roland Ashley: 'high demand'

88 expenditure is £705 million, of which only £98 million will be allocated to the various types of home ownership schemes. And 80 per cent of funds will be swallowed up by existing projects, leaving only 20 per cent for any new ones.

In the first year that the housing associations were able to offer homes for sale, 96 were sold under shared ownership schemes. This increased the following year to 3,125, while in the boom year of 1983-84, 7,574 shared ownership homes were sold. This then fell off dramatically in 1984-85 to 2,459.

The most recent figure available is for 1985-86, when the number crept up slightly to 2,879. The reason for the sharp drop from the 1983-84 high is, quite simply, the cutback in public spending.

Roland Ashley, the home-ownership officer for the National Federation of Housing Associations, emphasizes that demand, especially in London and the South-East, is by far outstripping supply at the moment. Many associations have actually closed their waiting lists.

Though not wishing to portray a picture of complete hopelessness, Mr Ashley is reluctant to raise false hopes. Many associations, he explains, are not looking to encourage applications.

However, the outlook is not all gloom and doom. Both the Housing Corporation and the National Federation of Housing Associations expect more shared-ownership homes will be available in the future, although the likelihood is that they will be privately funded.

Further hope for potential borrowers has come recently from the Woolwich Building Society. Its latest lending initiative, the equity mortgage, is

modelled closely on shared ownership.

This type of mortgage has been made possible by the recent Building Societies Act, which enables societies to have a share in residential property.

As with traditional shared ownership, the borrower buys only a share of the property, the minimum being 60 per cent, and the building society takes the remaining equity share. Should the borrower decide not to increase his share when the property is sold, the society takes a percentage of the capital appreciation of the property equal to its equity share.

The expectation is, however, that borrowers will be able to buy their property outright within five years. The property is then independently valued and the borrower's mortgage is increased to accommodate this, provided, of course, that his or her salary is sufficient to cover this increase.

Alternatively, the borrower may buy out the remaining equity in two equal instalments.

Steven Jones, regional development officer for Woolwich Homes, says the equity mortgage has two distinct advantages over traditional shared ownership.

The first is that the borrower acquires full legal interest from the outset, doing away with the freeholder-leaseholder relationship and making the process simpler.

Secondly, borrowers do not have to pay rent on the portion they do not own. Full interest is due on the share that is owned, with the interest

### Scheme being offered on a limited basis

rate on the remainder as low as zero per cent or, at most, 1 or 2 per cent.

The level at which this interest rate is set depends mostly on the area in which the property is situated. In the South it is unlikely that the borrower will have to pay anything because the building society can be sure of making money on the appreciation of the value of the property.

However, even where the borrower has to pay 1 or 2 per cent, it is unlikely to amount to more than the rent that would be payable on a shared-ownership home, and the rate is fixed.

This scheme, too, is being offered on a limited basis. Initially at least, the mortgages are available only on homes built by Woolwich Homes (1987), the housing development arm of the Woolwich Building Society, in partnership with housing associations and local authorities.

In each of the first three years it is expected that 500 homes will be available, for which a total of £75 million will be put up.

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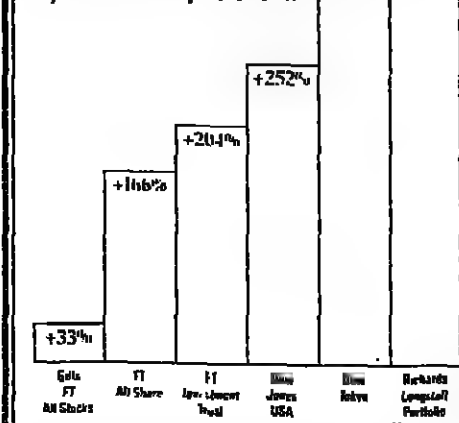
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The Managers may use all investments and investment techniques which may be authorised for investment by unit trusts in the future, provided they are consistent with the investment objectives of the respective trust and the Managers consider their use to be in the interest of the unit holders.

The stocks and shares quoted as examples are typical of the securities that will be held in the three trusts. The securities mentioned may not necessarily be included in the trusts as our view of various shares and markets will change as time passes.

**CAN I TAKE AN INCOME?** Yes. If you invest in the Cautionary Trust, which aims to combine capital growth with a degree of rising income, you will receive income payments twice a year — on 15 April and 15 October. The first payment will be made on 15 October 1988. The estimated gross initial income yield for the Cautionary Trust is 4.26% p.a.

The aim of the Growth and Speculative Trusts is to achieve substantial capital growth and all net income is automatically re-invested. Investors in these trusts will receive a tax deduction certificate and a report from the Managers in August (Growth) and May (Speculative) each year.

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**WHAT IS THE TAX POSITION?** Basic rate tax (currently 27%) is deducted only from income payments, whether withdrawn or re-invested. If you pay basic rate tax, there is no further tax on income (just like a building society). If you pay higher rate tax, you will be required to pay some more tax at the end of the year. However, unlike building society investments, non-taxpayers can reclaim income tax which has already been deducted.

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**WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE TRUSTEE?** The Trustee is appointed to hold the assets of the trusts, to safeguard the interests of all unit holders and has overall responsibility to ensure that the rules of the trusts are being kept. The Trustee is Chase Manhattan Trustees Limited, P.O. Box 16, Woolgate House, Coleman Street, London EC2P 2HD.

The Trusts are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and classified as wider range investments under the Trustee Investment Act, 1981.

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Do you currently hold any Unit Trusts? Yes ☐ No ☐ Shares? Yes ☐ No ☐

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£	Total Investment

I declare that I am over 18 years of age and I am not a US national or a resident of Eire.

Signature(s) (All applicants must sign) Date Signature(s) (All applicants must sign) Date

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Name of Financial Adviser (If any)

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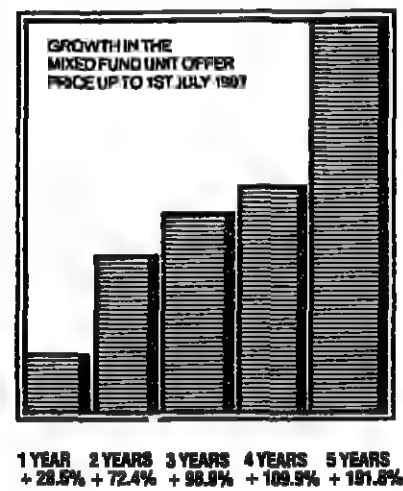
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## FAMILY MONEY 17

# A punter's thrill, an investor's skill

We would all like to make a lot of money very quickly. Unless you have special insights about the winner of this afternoon's 3.30, honest money is rarely earned except through hard graft.

But there is one form of investment in which you can combine some of the thrill that backing the winner of the 3.30 provides with the skill associated with traditional investment. That is through traded options.

Ten years after traded options were launched by the Stock Exchange, they form one of the fastest growing financial instruments. Like the weather they come from across the Atlantic but seem to have struck a British chord.

Dealing on the London Traded Options Exchange is growing at the rate of 7 per cent a month. This year there will be more traded options contracts than in all other years put together.

At present traded options are available on 55 stocks, all of them alpha stocks including such well-known names as British Airways, Midland Bank and Tesco. Traded options are also available on the FT-SE 100 Share Index, three gilt stocks and a couple of currencies.

Two new stocks are to be added every month and options dealings on Unilever and Wellcome started this week.

Yet it remains a complicated subject understood by few. Very simply, a traded

Traded options represent a fast-growing form of investment. MIHIR BOSE unravels the intricacies

option is the right to buy or sell shares. A call option gives you the right to buy, a put option the right to sell shares. You do not have actually to buy or sell the shares.

In fact, it rarely comes to that. The name of the game is to trade the options, and the skill with which you can do that will decide the money you make, or if you do make money.

In traded options a contract normally represents 1,000 shares, though this can change when a company has a bonus or a rights issue. A contract cannot be divided. So if you are dealing in traded options you cannot deal in half a contract. It must be either one or two, or whatever.

Unlike a share, a traded

option has a certain life. Expiry dates are fixed at three-monthly intervals and the whole year is divided into three cycles: January, April, July, October, February, May, August, November, and March, June, September, December.

When the shares of a company are allowed to have traded options, then they are allocated to one of these three cycles. Traded options have a maximum life of nine months and at any one time three of these expiry dates will be quoted.

For instance, traded options in the third cycle will have options at the moment in December, March, June. When the December ones expire, the September ones for the following year will be introduced and so on.

There is a price at which you as an option holder can buy the shares to which the option relates. This price is known as the Exercise Price and is fixed by the Stock Exchange in accordance with a certain scale.

Let us assume that a fictitious company called Sure Profits is to have traded options. It will trade in the first cycle, the January to October one, and its current share price is 260p. It will have traded options with expiry dates in October, January and April.

For each of these dates

Continued on facing page

## The double helping

So far we have looked at investors who buy a traded option contract and then either sell it or exercise the right to buy the underlying security. But an investor can also sell an option he does not even own.

This is known as writing a traded option contract. Just as the buyer pays a premium, so the writer of a contract receives a premium.

In some ways the difference between the investor who buys options and the one who writes them is the difference between the punter and the bookmaker. The punter could lose what he has gambled, the bookmaker could lose a lot more if he has got the odds wrong. But when he is right he stands to make pure profit.

For the writer of an option this is the premium he receives but he is liable to supply shares to an option holder who exercises his contract. This comes about through an assignment notice. If traded options are for the risk-loving investor, then writing options is for those who want to have a double helping of the risk cream.

The risk is somewhat less if you own the shares in which you are writing options. This is known as covered writing. But if you do not own the shares the risk can be considerable.

Let us say you decide to

write five January 300 contracts on Sure Profits. Their price at the moment is 295p. Your view is that Sure Profits will not rise much further. The January 300s carry a 20p premium, and so on writing the five contracts you will get 20p per share. With every contract holding 1,000 shares, this means £1,000.



Nicholas Rowley: a warning

As long as the share price does not rise above 300p, you are laughing all the way to the bank. However, if the share price starts to rise, you are in trouble. Up to 320p, 300p plus 20p share price premium, you are still all right. After that every penny rise means you are losing money, and should

there be a dramatic rise and a bidder comes along, you could be in serious trouble.

You could cover yourself by making what is known as a closing purchase and this will terminate the liability and limit the loss.

All writers of traded options must lodge what is known as margin money with their stockbroker. It can be either cash or stock. The margin is calculated on the basis of taking 20 per cent of the underlying security value and either adding the amount by which the option is in the money or subtracting the amount by which it is out of the money.

Unlike shares where settlement is on account dates, traded options settlement is next morning and the margin must be paid the morning after the transaction is entered. With the margin related to the underlying share price, they are recalculated daily and brokers may ask clients to lodge more than just the minimum margin figure.

All traded options experts warn about writing options. Nicholas Rowley, of Smith New Court, feels: "If you write options your loss is unlimited, but your profit is limited to the premium and we discourage our clients from writing naked options."

# An investment in performance

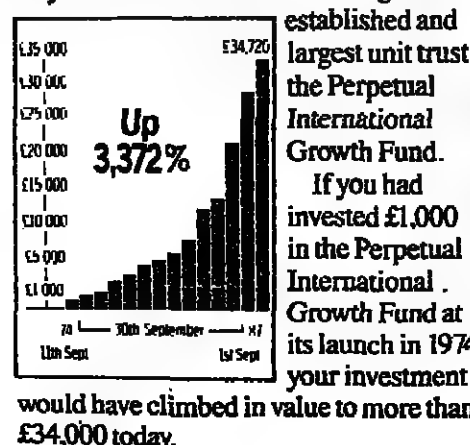
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## Perpetual's Past Performance

Fund	Launch date	Annual Compound growth rate	Fundrise since launch
International Growth Fund	11.9.74	31.5%	3,372.0%
Income Fund	16.6.79	22.7%	434.8%
Worldwide Recovery Fund	23.1.82	27.4%	287.6%
American Growth Fund	24.9.83	13.8%	66.2%
International Emerging Companies Fund	22.9.84	29.8%	115.0%
Far Eastern Growth Fund	4.5.85	51.4%	162.0%
European Growth Fund	18.1.86	25.7%	44.6%
U.K. Growth Fund	12.6.87	—	—

All figures are to 31 September 1987. Inclusive of re-invested income except for the Income Fund and are on an after-tax basis.

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FAMILY MONEY/8



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## The thrill, the skill

Continued from facing page

exercise prices of 240p and 280p will be set. These are known as series and we have Sure Profits October 240 series and so on. Should the price fall below 260p for some time, or rise above 280p, then new series for October, January and April, but at different prices, will be introduced.

The price you pay for the traded option is known as the premium and this will reflect market demand. This premium has two values, an intrinsic value and a time value. Remember this premium can change in value very quickly.

Let us take the example of Sure Profits trading at 254p. The January 240 options are available at, say, 28p. The intrinsic value of this premium is 254p - 240p = 14p. The remaining 14p that you are required to pay to buy the options represents what is called the time value.

You are prepared to pay this because you believe that Sure Profits' share price will rise during the next few months. Go forward a few months to April and you will see the time value of the premium is greater, and in general the longer the life of an option the higher is its premium.

As we have seen, the exercise price of the option can be more or less than the price of the share at a given moment. If it is below the ruling share price then the option is "in-the-money". If it is above it is "out-of-the-money". If they both happen to be the same, the option is "at-the-money".

The exercise price of an option is fixed, but the share price can vary, so options can move quickly from in money to out of money and vice versa.

Two other concepts are important. Delta is the relationship between the share price and the premium you have to pay for the traded options. Just because the share price moves up by 10p, it does not follow that the premium will also increase by 10p. It might increase by just 1p.

The other things to be careful about are the bid-offer spreads. They can be enormous. Woolworth, for instance, has a bid-offer of 7p on most of the contracts. Hanson, in contrast, has 1 1/2p.

## The favoured slow starters

After a slow start options have become a favourite with institutions, which have devised a number of strategies to use them as a hedge against risk.

Some of the strategies have even acquired exotic names such as butterfly and the short strangle, with the short butterfly and the short strangle being the counter-strategies. Many of these strategies do not have much relevance for the private investor. However, there is one position the private investor might find useful.

Market rumour says a bidder is stalking Sure Profits. The stock is up 25 per cent to 250p. You feel the bid would push the price higher but do not fancy trying in case the bid does not take place.

Let us say there is a February 250 call listed at 16p and a February 250 put at 15p. The investor buys each one for a total outlay of 33p. The range of prices is 250p - 33p = 217p at the bottom end and 250p + 33p = 283p at the top. You have created what is known as a straddle, making two long positions.

If the share price moves above or below this range then there is profit. The exercise price of 250p is the price of maximum loss.

Sure Profits convincingly denies there is a bidder and the stock falls to 205p. The put option is sold for 45p and gives a 30p profit on an investment of 15p (200 per cent), and a 12p profit on the total investment of 33p (36 per cent). The call option is retained and may produce profits if the share price increases again.

If, however, you expect the stock market to dawdle along, not doing very much, then you might think of writing an option. This is how the straddle would work. You write a straddle consisting of a July 300 Sure Profits call for 29p and a July 300 put for 22p. The total premium you receive will be 51p and as long as the price of Sure Profits remains within the range of

### 'They can be used to gear portfolios'

249p-251p (300p - 51p = 249p; 300p + 51p = 351p) you are making money. But if the stock moves outside this range then there is trouble.

If the price rises to 338p, you lose 9p on the short call and the put expires worthless. Risky but not as risky as writing uncovered puts or calls. Not everybody feels quite so cautious about writing options. Graham Wellesley, of Hoare Govett, says: "We favour writing options. They can be used very effectively to gear portfolios."

Your money is invested in BP. But you fancy BAA and think they are going to rise beyond the present 140p-143p. You write a February 140 put at 8p. On the third trading

Wednesday in February BAA closes at 140p or above. Your profit is 1,000 x 8p = £80. If it falls to 132p then you will have to buy the stock, but by then you may be able to come out of BP, post-flotation, and use the money to buy BAA.

For a minimum £100,000 investment Hoare Govett's

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But you do not need quite that much to dabble in traded options. At Smith New Court Investment Services the minimum investment is £10,000. You can get a discretionary service or an advisory service where the broker will ring to seek instructions about particular investments. But if you go for an advisory service make sure you have a Topic screen to monitor the fast-moving traded options scene.

The Smith New Court service is aimed at the smaller private investor, but Nicholas Rowley points out: "We make it clear that not more than 10 per cent of any investor's portfolio should be in traded options. So those who make our service will have an investment portfolio of £100,000. If the minimum investment in options is £10,000 then your portfolio must be worth a million and you do not need to be a millionaire to invest in traded options."

What you do need to do is study the subject thoroughly.

There are several courses. The London School of Investment (01-370 6867) offers 10 lectures for £119 and a fortnightly newsletter. Subscribers also get a dummy run using a notional £10,000. City Investment School (01-353 4453) has 12 lectures for £195 with a weekly market newsletter and simulated trading with an imaginary £10,000. The best introduction is available from the Stock Exchange (01-588 2355), which offers excellent introductory booklets and inexpensive evening lectures.

Once you know a little about options you can think of subscribing to the various newsletters. They include the fortnightly *Traded Options Newsletter*, at £145 a year, and the *Cambridge Investment Research*, at £385 a year, or *Chart Analysis Ltd*, at £875 a year.

Mr Rowley says: "While it is not as risky as putting your shirt on the 3.30 or playing roulette, it is riskier than investing in the equity market. However, you can cut your losses and, used flexibly, it can make you money."

## Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 28).

Day	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	+6	+5	+4	+5	+4		
2	+8	+7	+6	+5	+5		
3	+6	+3	+3	+5	+2		
4	+8	+5	+2	+8	+6		
5	+3	+4	+5	+5	+4		
6	+5	+6	+2	+6	+5		
7	+7	+7	+6	+7	+6		
8	+7	+4	+4	+6	+2		
9	+8	+6	+5	+5	+8		
10	+6	+3	+4	+7	+5		
11	+7	+3	+5	+5	+2		
12	+7	+2	+3	+6	+3		
13	+8	+4	+3	+7	+5		
14	+7	+2	+4	+5	+3		
15	+9	+5	+5	+6	+4		
16	+6	+8	+1	+6	+3		
17	+6	+1	+4	+5	+3		
18	+8	+1	+3	+4	+3		
19	+8	+1	+5	+4	+2		
20	+7	+8	+7	+5	+5		
21	+5	+4	+5	+5	+4		
22	+7	+3	+3	+7	+4		
23	+8	+5	+7	+4	+8		
24	+6	+5	+6	+8	+3		
25	+5	+6	+3	+8	+5		
26	+7	+1	+4	+6	+2		
27	+5	+5	+3	+7	+5		
28	+7	+4	+6	+5	+7		
29	+7	+2	+4	+4	+1		
30	+6	+5	+2	+7	+5		
31	+7	+5	+5	+4	+6		
32	+8	+4	+5	+5	+2		
33	+7	+4	+2	+6	+6		
34	+7	+3	+4	+5	+3		
35	+8	+7	+6	+5	+5		
36	+7	+3	+4	+6	+3		
37	+6	+3	+1	+8	+6		
38	+8	+6	+5	+8	+5		
39	+6	+2	+3	+7	+5		
40	+6	+4	+1	+7	+4		
41	+7	+1	+3	+5	+4		
42	+9	+3	+5	+7	+5		
43	+7	+3	+2	+7	+5		
44	+8	+2	+3	+5	+2		

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## LEGAL AND FINANCIAL

## One-stop shopping for houses

Any week now the Government will lift the lid on exactly how high the stakes will be in the conveyancing market. The Lord Chancellor is expected soon to publish the long-awaited draft rules under the Building Societies Act which will govern how building societies, banks and other "recognized institutions" may offer conveyancing services if they choose to do so.

The rules come in the wake of a flood of financial institutions into the home-buying market. Earlier this month the Abbey National announced plans to create a nationwide chain of 1,000 estate agents under the Cornerstone logo.

Within five years, Abbey National hopes to have more than 1,000 Cornerstone offices, making it the biggest estate agency in the country, equivalent to 10 per cent of the industry.

It is the latest of a dozen institutions to go into the market: others include Nationwide Anglia, the Prudential (Property Services), Royal Life, Hambro (Countrywide), Halifax, Lloyds Bank (Black Horse agencies), General Accident, Hogg Robinson, Team Agencies, Abaco and Provident Financial.

## All the techniques are backed by the new technology

A key feature of the new estate agency chains is the "one-stop shopping" approach. The financial institutions have been attracted to estate agency because of the enormous strengths and potential in the market. But it is also because of the opportunities that home-buying and selling provides for numerous outlets to promote mortgage services, insurance and financial advice.

All this is backed by new technology, with branches linked by computer, which in many cases give both details of properties listed as well as up-to-date financial advice. And the new packages for home-buyers may include such ideas as "fall-through" insurance cover to protect against gazumping, which will pay for a certain amount of solicitors' and surveyors' fees.

But where does this leave solicitors and conveyancing? The Building Societies Act will enable the financial institutions to provide conveyancing under certain conditions aimed at ensuring that no conflicts of interest arise.

In the case of building societies, for example, the rules are likely to stipulate that conveyancing services cannot be offered to someone to whom the organization is already lending money. So if it comes to doing the estate agency work and providing the mortgage or doing the conveyancing, most building societies are likely to opt for the former.

As far back as 1985 the National and Provincial Building Society said it was looking forward to working "with" solicitors using new technology to — in the words of Tony Kidd, the society's secretary and legal adviser — "provide a first-class conveyancing service for home-buyers at a substantially lower price."

## Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent, looks at the new rules for selling homes and how they affect solicitors

His society, he said, would not undertake conveyancing in-house as the new powers will enable it to do. One of the reasons was that the creation of the necessary bureaucracy would be unjustified when an efficient local service was already available in the majority of cases, he said.

Latest surveys of building societies show this still to be the case with the majority not interested in coming into the conveyancing market. They cannot use solicitors because there are rules preventing their doing conveyancing as employed lawyers of financial institutions.

These rules are now the subject of consultation with the profession but first indications are that most solicitors do not favour any relaxation of the prohibition.

If that view is endorsed, as seems likely, by the Law Society's council in December, it will mean any solicitor going to work for a bank or building society to do its conveyancing must leave the profession.



So how real is the threat? For the moment it does not look as if banks, building societies and others are ready to move into conveyancing in a big way. But apart from the details of the Lord Chancellor's rules, that may also to some extent depend on whether they can come to arrangements with solicitors to provide an all-in service, conveyancing included.

Conveyancing Exchange, a company formed by a group of solicitors and due to be launched formally next month, would enable them to do just that. The company hopes to recruit several hundred solicitors with between them 1,000 offices.

They will operate under one logo which will be heavily promoted in the national and local media and will provide a conveyancing service at advertised rates, on a percentage scale of the house purchase price.

## A package of services offered by lawyer-run property centres

They hope to reach deals with companies, such as building organizations, who want to offer a package to new house buyers inclusive of conveyancing. But that kind of arrangement is at present prohibited by the Law Society rules.

Meanwhile, on a smaller scale, there is much that solicitors can do to offer their own package of services. They have already started doing so through property centres: there are three fully fledged property centres — at Wrexham, Berwick upon Tweed and Crawley — which sell property and offer clients a combined estate-agency and conveyancing fee at roughly two-thirds of the total that the two professions would normally charge.

Twelve firms in Harrogate have also combined to open a property centre and two firms at St Austell, Cornwall, are planning to open one later this year. With the coming into force of the Financial Services Act 1986 next year, solicitors will also be able to offer financial advice as part of this package.

With the backing of a national electronic network, now being looked at by the Law Society, which would tie solicitors in with the Land Registry and other bodies, the individual solicitor will have a fighting chance to keep his share of the conveyancing market.

On Tuesday, Career Horizons reports on licensed conveyancers

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Date of birth

Tel No:

Day

Evening

Occupation

Annual basic salary £

Guaranteed overtime/bonus £

How long in present job

If remortgage, amount outstanding

Mortgage required £

Type of property

If leasehold, number of years

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Date of birth

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Guaranteed overtime/bonus £

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If remortgage, amount outstanding

Purchase price/valuation £

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## LEGAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES GUIDE

ALSO ON PAGE 11



# Sponsorship designed to create involvement

By Jim Raitton

British rowing has been given a unique sponsorship offer but to realise its potential rowing and its supporters have a little work to do — which is no bad thing. The new sponsor on the initiative of the British International Rowing Fund (BIRF) is TSB Trustcard, the Visa credit card of TSB Group.

Trustcard has guaranteed £75,000 together with a scheme which could inject up to a total of £500,000 by October 1989.

The sponsorship scheme was launched yesterday at Putney,

when Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, an Olympic rowing silver medal winner, accepted a cheque on behalf of the sport for £25,000, made out appropriately on two rowing oars.

The scheme is an interesting one. Trustcard has agreed to issue a specifically designed rowing card from October 1. This will be issued free of charge to new card holders who complete a special Trustcard application form, which will be distributed by BIRF. For each

new account opened Trustcard will donate £5 to BIRF. In addition to each £100 of transaction turnover on a card a further 20p donation will be made. Trustcard has 2.7 million card holders and 5 million Visa outlets worldwide.

It is estimated that British rowing has 15,000 active participants and 30,000 club supporters. Add to that, friends, families, acquaintances and colleagues and a quarter of a million could be reached by taking up the card alone. It is really an offer the sport cannot refuse.

Lethargy however could kill the golden egg. But there are incentives. Each club is named on the application form for the card will receive £1. And there are cash prizes for clubs, schools and universities taking up the most cards.

Mr Noel Jenkins, director and general manager of TSB Trustcard, commenting on the agreement said: "Trustcard is proud to be backing one of Britain's most successful sports." Mike Pelham, chairman of BIRF, added: "The scheme gives clubs the chance to exploit our international success to their financial advantage."

The sponsorship agreement covers British international rowing teams, including the 1988 Olympic squad and the 1988 world lightweight and junior world championship training teams and could remove the perennial complaint of lack of funds for the sport at international level for the next year or so.

# Valuable workout for Leng

By Jenny MacArthur

Virginia Leng, the world and European champion, is giving her top young advanced horse Master Craftsman an outing at this weekend's Ingersoll-Bourton event near Rugby.

Master Craftsman, an eight-year-old thoroughbred who was runner-up at the Stockholm three-day event in June, missed Burghley earlier this month after a training set back — thus preventing Mrs Leng from attempting a fifth successive win. He is due to go to next month's Bockelo three-day event in The Netherlands and Mrs Leng hopes that Bourton will provide a suitable preparation.

For Diana Clapham, who was first and second last year on Windhammer and Finney Cuckoo respectively, Bourton will be the final outing for her Chatsworth entry, the eight-year-old Weldon Spirit, owned by Michael Holliday.

Miss Clapham, whose third place at Burghley on Finney Cuckoo was the best British performance, is also entered with Manicou's Gem, the eight-year-old who gave her an unlucky fall at Rudding Park last month.

Other key contenders in the advanced section include Nicola May, the daughter of the former England cricket captain, with Jollivants at Tapscott, last week, and Angela Tucker with two entries — Good Value, who is heading for Badminton next year, and Resolution, a promising new advanced horse who is entered for Chatsworth next week.

# RACING: TITLE CONTENDERS IN RARE BATTLE AT ASCOT



Henry Cecil's Sanqueroo attempts to extend his unbeaten sequence to five in the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot today

# Game Shooting Party proves top ammunition for Cauthen

By Michael Seely

The battle for the jockeys' championship continued to dominate the scene at Ascot yesterday.

Steve Cauthen gave a masterly exhibition waiting in front on Shooting Party to foil the late attack of Pat Eddery on Balmoral in the Royal Lodge Stakes for Henry Cecil.

Not to be outdone, Eddery hit back when forcing Brownzewing home half a length in front of Miss Cuddles to capture the Taylor Woodrow Team Charity Stakes for John Dunlop.

But then Cauthen completed a double by coaxing Cecil's Bay Shadow to a half-length victory in the Kensington Palace Stakes, reducing the gap to three, with Eddery on the 164 mark and Cauthen with 161 victories to his credit.

The authorities found that, although interference had taken place, it had been caused by Balmoral swerving away from the whip of another rider in the race. They therefore ordered the placing to remain unaltered as the result had not been affected.

Shooting Party has been playing a role of galloping campaign to Reference Point for much of the season. "He's a really game horse and I'd like to keep him in training as a four-year-old," said the proud owner afterwards.

Brownzewing, Eddery's winner, started at the generous odds of 6-1 due to the heavy support for Guy Harwood's runner, Cauthen. But the 7-4 favourite was not too freely in the lead before weakening in the closing stages to finish third.

Bought for only 7,200 guineas as a yearling, Brownzewing's courage and consistency has carried the filly to victories in the Esher Cup, at Newmarket and now here for Sir Thomas Phillips.

"She's got 8st 10lb in the Cambridgeshire and doesn't get a penny," said Dunlop. "It's a possibility, of course, but I think she earned the right to go for a little group race somewhere."

The remarkable record of Cecil's Cauthen in various Ascot races continued when Chris Rutter drove Ever Sharp home three lengths clear of the William Hill Golden Spurs.

The astute Devonshire trainer has not only won the Royal course's £10,000 feature with Young Lion in 1984 and 1985, he has also won other races at Ascot this year with his grey nine-year-old and also with Ever Sharp.

These are exciting days for Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk. On Thursday, her skyblue colours were carried to victory by Mores Madness in the Cumberland Lodge Stakes. And yesterday it was the turn of Sheriff's Star, a half-brother to the 1986 St Leger winner, to uphold the family reputation in the EBF Manxman Stakes.

Trained by Lady Herries, Sheriff's Star had worked encouragingly with some of Guy Harwood's two-year-olds at Putborough last Sunday. "He's starting to mature and come to himself," said the Duchess. "He might run in either the Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury or the William Hill Futurity."

Remarkably, Sheriff's Star's only three entries to date have been made in the race won at Newmarket, yesterday's event and in another contest at Newmarket next week.

# Chance for Allez Milord

Allen Milford (Greville Sturkey) will be seeking to replace his reputation in the £243,243 Turf Classic over 12 furlongs at Belmont Park, New York this evening.

But, after making every yard of the running, Cauthen had to ride his hardest as Eddery attempted to persuade the reluctant runner-up to give her best close home.

Fears that the reigning champion might be in for a suspension for careless riding after Balmoral had swerved to bump Polish Count two furlongs from home, were finally allayed after a lengthy stewards inquiry.

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# Almaarad for successful Irish return

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Hamdan Al-Maktoum's still improving four-year-old Almaarad returns to the Curragh this afternoon for the £125,000 group two Blandford Stakes.

Previously, he had enjoyed a comfortable victory in the Curragh Cup before going on to win the Prix Kennerly and the Grand Prix de Deauville in France.

Although his trainer John Dunlop believes him to be much better suited to good ground, his superior ability should enable him to triumph on soft going this afternoon.

The danger could be the second English challenger, Nisnas, who has drawn a blank so far this season, but ran second over this course and distance last month to Baba Karam.

Sheikh Mohammed's Melodist, trained by Michael Stoute, represents English interests in the other group race, the Judokonte Futurity Stakes. She may meet her match, however in the Vincent O'Brien-trained Gold Discovery, who gave away a lot of ground through inexperience when a first-time scorer over this course.

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RACING

# Flying Miesque can take centre stage

By Mandarin

If the best advertisement for racing is the sight of a top-class horse in action then the promoters of the inaugural Festival of British Racing at Ascot today could have wished for no finer ambassador than Miesque.

The appearance of Europe's outstanding miler in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes sets the seal on a fascinating and constantly entertaining six-race programme, the most richly endowed meeting ever staged in this country.

Miesque's attraction is not merely in her record, although that in itself, liberally sprinkled with group one successes, including the English and French 1,000 Guineas, speaks volumes for her ability.

What also endears her to racegoers is the manner of victory, her searing finishing speed reducing other top-class horses to mere supporting players.

It is difficult to envisage any other script this afternoon, and she should give Steve Caughan, who stands in for the suspended Freddie Head, a memorable ride.

She faces just four opponents, three of them trained by Michael Stoute. Sonja Lady, the choice of stable jockey Walter Swinburn, was the leading miler of her sex in Europe last year, but she has been lightly raced this term and has been intermittently troubled by back problems.

This is a tough task for her in the light of that, and it could be Milligram who poses the



Francis Boutin, who trains Miesque

more potent threat. She has acquired herself particularly well this term, most recently when winning the Waterford Crystal Mile at Goodwood, and her form at the highest level stands close scrutiny.

However, this looks like another win for the Francois Boutin-trained Miesque.

The two top juvenile races on the card, the Hoover Filles' Mile and the Royal Lodge Stakes, may both be won by Henry Cecil with Diminuendo and Sanquero, respectively.

Diminuendo is unbeaten in her three starts, her best effort being the 1½-length defeat of Magic Of Life in the Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket in July. That is solid form as Magic Of Life subsequently ran third to Bluebook and Aim For The Top on King George day here, and last Saturday won the Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury.

Sanquero, also unbeaten, faces much his sternest task

here but this mile should be right up his street. He has showed himself to be a talented and determined front-runner, and emphatically accounted for Golden Wave at Sandown Park last month.

On a line through Golden Wave he holds Underwood, who beat Golden Wave in the Lonsdale Champagne Stakes at Goodwood in July. I also wonder if this relatively short straight may be against Underwood, who quickened steadily rather than immediately at Goodwood.

However, for the nap I turn to Norman Invader in the Tote Festival Handicap. Although this is an undoubtedly tricky contest many of those in the top half of the handicap are fully exposed and I side with a horse who is near the foot of the weights and may yet have scope.

He was unlucky not to have won at Doncaster last time out, being blocked in his run at a vital stage, and seems to be best when coming with a late run, as he should be able to do here.

Tramphip is well weighted on the strength of her Park Hill Stakes win, Lake Erie is a serious danger despite top weight while Whiston, in the same ownership as Tramphip, should not be dismissed lightly.

Handsome Sailor, from the in-form stable of Barry Hills, may be too good for Hallgate in the Diadem Stakes, while Michael Stoute introduces a highly-regarded newcomer in Dabaweya in the Blue Seal EBF Stakes.

STRATFORD

Selections

By Mandarin

2.30 Killary Bay. 3.30 Signatman. 3.30 Jack Ramsey. 4.00 Colonel Christy. 4.30 Chief Runner. 5.0 King's Jew. 5.30 Trackers Jewel.

Going: good

2.30 MICHAELMAS SELLING HURDLE (2388: 2m) (11 runners)

1. 5.31 KILLARY BAY (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
2. 5.32 MICHAELMAS SELL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
3. 5.33 FARMER'S HILL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
4. 5.34 KILLARY BAY (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
5. 5.35 MICHAELMAS SELL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
6. 5.36 FARMER'S HILL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
7. 5.37 KILLARY BAY (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
8. 5.38 MICHAELMAS SELL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
9. 5.39 FARMER'S HILL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
10. 5.40 KILLARY BAY (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
11. 5.41 MICHAELMAS SELL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
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13. 5.43 KILLARY BAY (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
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27. 5.57 FARMER'S HILL (12.0) (J. J. Tinkler) 5-11-5. M. Dwyer
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# Woosnam excels as Europe rally

From Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, Columbus, Ohio

It took a little believing, and an excess of courage and endeavour, but as the 27th Ryder Cup began here yesterday on the Muirfield Village course, so Europe staged a quite remarkable rally to finish the opening series on level terms with the United States.

For a large part of the morning it seemed that Europe might be overwhelmed in the foursomes as the United States swept ahead in all four matches. Yet by lunch, the scene on the 18th green, of Tony Jacklin, the captain, hugging first Nick Faldo and then Woosnam then Severiano Ballesteros and José María Olazábal took the memory back to The Belfry where two years ago Europe won the biennial match for the first time since 1957.

Faldo and Woosnam produced the most astonishing performance by clawing their way back from four holes behind at the turn to defeat Larry Mize and Lanny Wadkins by two holes. Ballesteros, playing as well as he has at any time in his illustrious career, and Olazábal recovered from two down after six holes to win on the last green against Larry Nelson and Payne Stewart.

It was an Herculean effort which meant that the four-ones were shared two-two. The frustration of the Americans was rather boisterously reflected by Wadkins as he angrily brushed aside an ITN cameraman on departing from the 18th green.

Jacklin, of course, had nothing but admiration for all of his players. "Fantastic," he said. "It looked pretty grim early on but I've got a great bunch of fighters here. It left us in a much better mood for the four balls in the afternoon."

In fact it was a classic morning for the start of this historic contest. There was a hint of winter in the air, as Howard Clark struck the opening shot, but as the early mist cleared so the sun's rays lit a typically golden autumnal scene.

The trouble was that initially there was little to brighten the morning as far as Europe was concerned as Sam Torrance and Clark lost three of the first five holes. They were eventually dispatched quite unmercifully four and two by Tom Kite and Curtis Strange while Ken Brown and Bernhard Langer finally succumbed two and one to Dan Pohl and Hal Sutton.

Even so, the other two

foursomes matches transformed the mood in the European camp from one of despondency to one of delight. Faldo and Woosnam provided the unlikely point for they had struggled to the turn in fewer than 40 shots and Mize and Wadkins had taken full advantage by easing into a convincing four holes lead.

Woosnam traced their problem to misjudging several shots early on in the cold conditions. But there was absolutely nothing wrong with the three-iron that Faldo struck to five feet from the hole at the 10th. Woosnam sank the putt for a winning birdie and he lit the blue touch paper on one of the finest recoveries since the Ryder Cup began in 1927.

In truth Wadkins turned the dagger on his own team by hitting his tee shot into a bunker at the short 12th and driving into creek at the 14th. Woosnam, however, brought the encounter all square with a glorious one-iron shot of some



RYDER CUP

250 yards which found the centre of the green at the long 15th.

Mize and Wadkins, after playing the 17th hole indifferently went behind for the first time and Woosnam ensured a famous victory when at the 18th he executed an excellent recovery from a green side bunker after Faldo's five-iron approach had fallen short.

Even so it was the mercurial Ballesteros who provided the largest gallery ever to witness a Ryder Cup match in the United States with a variety of strokes which will long be etched in the memory of every one of those spectators who had the fortune to see them.

There was an inauspicious start for the continental partnership as Nelson, protecting an unbeaten Ryder Cup record, struck his opening tee shot to within six feet of the cup. Stewart's putt for a birdie never looked like missing.

Ballesteros, however, immediately replied. He struck a gorgeous second shot to six feet at the next which squared the match. Ballesteros

saved the third with a deft chip but the Americans won the next two holes, both with birdies, before conceding the sixth.

The extraordinary pressure of playing in his first Ryder Cup match was clearly having a telling effect on Olazábal although his confidence level clearly rose, as beside him Ballesteros continued to produce the kind of inspirational golf that has become his trademark.

It was Ballesteros's outstanding 40 yards bunker shot which rescued the partnership again at the seventh, with the ball actually hitting the hole, and it was his putt of 25 feet which won for them the eighth with a two. Then it was back to all square again at the ninth where Nelson inexplicably missed from little more than two feet.

Ballesteros kept the momentum flowing with an extraordinary recovery at the 10th where Olazábal had driven into a fairway bunker. He hit a three-iron more than 170 yards and delivered the ball 10 feet behind the pin. Nelson and Stewart were level again with four holes remaining but Ballesteros won the 15th for his team by playing a delightful pitch and run across the slick surface of the green to within birdie distance. The Americans, now clearly feeling the pressure themselves, finally conceded that putt after Stewart had fluffed his chip.

Olazábal, to his credit, holed from seven feet for a par at the 16th but it was that man Ballesteros again who made sure of victory with another miraculous recovery at the 18th. He found himself once more playing from a fairway bunker but his six-iron flew the 150 yards to the green and from 45 feet the two Spaniards two putted then congratulated each other on their supreme achievement.

Card of course					
Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	446	4	10	441	4
2	452	4	11	538	5
3	392	4	12	456	4
4	204	3	13	442	4
5	531	5	14	383	4
6	430	4	15	480	5
7	549	5	16	204	3
8	189	3	17	430	4
9	410	4	18	437	4
Out		3,603	36	In 3,501 36	
Total yardage: 7,104				Par: 72	

## Yesterday's results

(US names first)

**Foursomes**  
C Strange and T Kite bt S Torrance and H Clark, 4 and 2.  
H Sutton and D Pohl bt K Brown and B Langer, 2 and 1.  
L Wadkins and L Mize lost to N Faldo and J Woosnam, 2 up.  
L Nelson and P Stewart lost to S Ballesteros and J M Olazábal, 1 up.



Another mercurial stroke: Ballesteros helps Europe draw level against the United States in the Ryder Cup

## Jacklin's gloom turns to joy

From David Miller, Columbus, Ohio

When Ian Woosnam dumped his approach into water at the foot of the green on the third, Tony Jacklin said glumly to Bernard Gallacher, his former Ryder Cup colleague who was driving his buggy here at Muirfield: "We're in bad shape." Woosnam and the Open champion, Nick Faldo, were three down to Wadkins and Mize, and the British dream was disintegrating fast in the morning foursomes.

Jacklin waited for Ballesteros and Olazábal, the fourth pair, to come through, and saw Ballesteros save the hole for a half with a perfect chip, past the flag and letting the ball roll back. But when the Spaniards went one down at the fourth, with the three pairs ahead of them already all trailing, Jacklin said to Gallacher: "Let's get out of here." To where, he was not sure. Nor what to say or do when he got there.

At this stage, American optimism was strident. To make matters worse for Jacklin, his short-wave intercom had gone dead, leaving him out of touch with events up-front. Langer and Brown were down to Sutton and Pohl after being ahead. Faldo's approach at the fifth was short, and with Woosnam putting wide, the pair dropped the hole after getting one back in the fourth. "A lot of bad shots," Jacklin muttered.

It had been such an idyllic opening to the three day event. A mist hung over parts of this beautiful course, the early sun creeping through the trees and catching the wet, turning leaves as Howard Clark drove the first ball of the day. As he and Torrance set off down the fairway, their footmarks in the heavy dew looked like snowflakes. A crowd of over 300 cheered them on their way but within five holes they would be three down to Strange and Kite.

The august figure of the Earl of Derby, president of the PGA, was there with he sunrise. An aristocrat helps make the Ryder Cup scene. The day before, an American host had greeted him and asked how he was. "Fine," replied the Earl, except that the airline had lost his luggage. Never mind, sympathized his host. "It's a nuisance. I can't do anything," the Earl said stiffly. "Can't even go to bed, haven't got any pyjamas."

Torrance and Clark must have been wishing they could go quietly back to bed. Clark was not driving well, Torrance, so confident two years ago, was now all too evidently uncertain, and by this time Jacklin was already turning over in his mind bringing in Brand for Clark in the afternoon four-ball; putting together the two Scots.

short and not too difficult downhill putt that could have levelled the match with Sutton and Pohl.

As the four matches turned for the inward half, all behind, Jacklin was depressed but not despondent. "It can make you dig deeper when you find yourself behind," he mused. Ballesteros would do this, as would Faldo and Woosnam, taking six of the last nine holes with a rush of sudden authority.

Jacklin's gloom turned to glee as the third and fourth pairs reversed their fortunes.

By now, Jacklin had determined to give the demonstrative Rivero an outing with Brand. This was the time for some challenging decisions, the captain considered. And the brilliance of Ballesteros from the 14th inwards and the surge of Faldo and Woosnam confirmed his resolution to alter the losing pairs.

END COLUMN

## Time for Coe and Co to play fair

By Jim Perrin

Every culture, every organization, has its key words, some of them totemic, others merely tokenist, all of them telling us something about the nature of the body politic that uses them. The Sports Council's key word is "participation", a gloss of which is provided by its motto, "Sport for All".

Whether this preoccupation is sincere or simply meant to appease conscience is open to debate. In no area of the Sports Council's work is it more debatable than in its attitude towards our generally termed "outdoor activities" - climbing, rambling, canoeing, orienteering, hang-gliding. There is an underlying problem of perception here.

## Grave imbalance in representation

Whereas an England victory over Australia or Brazil can, through reflected glory, national pride and crowd receipts, be seen to justify expenditure on coaching schemes, sports halls and playing field facilities, no such political or financial return can accrue from, say, a group of Sunday ramblers walking over the Slipesters.

The result of this has been a grave imbalance in the representation of non-competitive sport and recreation on the Sports Council itself. Of the membership of 33 listed in the current annual report, only one, George Cubitt, of the Central Council for Physical Recreation, has even an amateur interest in outdoor pursuits. The interests of the other names - such as Coppell, Coe, Brookings, Woadley - are entirely predictable.

This situation further obtains with regard to the professional staff of the organization. Beverly Penney, the Welsh officer of the Ramblers' Association, categorically states that "there is no one in the Sports Council, either centrally or regionally, with an informal recreational background. When you talk with them, all they ask you is how many cups you've won!"

Dennis Gray, the general secretary of the British Mountaineering Council, has a similar criticism: "They have got someone in the West Midlands with a specific brief for outdoor recreation, but he's a one-man band and no one knows what he's doing."

## Significant silence on activities

In the last year or two, and particularly through the painstaking work of Mike Collins, principal of its research and planning unit, the Sports Council has been forced, by the data its research has thrown up, into the recognition that if "Sport for All" is to mean anything it has to pay more attention to the non-competitive, informal recreations in which it has taken so little interest in the past.

On the debit side, however, the recent consultation paper on Sport In The Community has incensed the Ramblers' Association and the British Mountaineering Council by its significant silence on the activities they represent, and it has drawn a strong rebuke from the Central Council for Physical Recreation. The CCPR says "There must be much stronger representation of outdoor pursuits on the Sports Council, commensurate with the levels of public participation in outdoor recreation. It is in our view a scandal that the most popular recreations are so under-represented on the Sports Council itself."

Jim Perrin is a climber and columnist for the magazine *The Great Outdoors*.

## Stoking the funds

Belgrave Harriers are hoping for a good run in the McVitie's gold athletics challenge on October 4. The Harriers stage one of the regional 25 x 1 mile relay races at Battersea Park, London, needing funds to replace their clubhouse boiler which blew up and will cost £5,000 to replace. The club's patron, Klukundis, has promised to double anything Belgrave win in the event.

## Oklahoma date

The United States may host the world table tennis championships for the first time in 1993 (AFP reports). The president of the International Table Tennis Federation, Ichiro Ogimura, has received a letter from the Governor of Oklahoma, Henry Bellmon, inviting the ITTF to stage their showcase tournament in Oklahoma City in six years' time. The ITTF will consider the American application at their biennial general meeting in Dortmund, West Germany, in the spring, along with bids from Yugoslavia and England.

## White near a fortune

Jimmy White came close to the maximum break of 147 in the first frame of his 5-1 win over Steve Longworth in the fourth round of the Fidelity Unit Trusts International at Trentham Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes).

White was within sight of the special prize of £40,000, which would have been paid in unit trusts, after sinking 13 reds and 13 blacks. He lost

position on the penultimate red and an attempt to double it off the side cushion just failed, the break ending at 104.

On the adjoining table Dave Gilbert, of Hornechurch, beat the Welshman, Cliff Wilson, also by 5-1.

**RESULTS:** Fourth round: J White (Eng) bt S Longworth (Eng), 5-1. Frame scores (White first): 104-3, 61-19, 72-7, 57-70, 87-21, 85-1. D Gilbert (Eng) bt C Wilson (Wales), 5-1. Frame scores (Gilbert first): 44-53, 77-19, 66-26, 58-24, 47-38, 65-43.

Snooker board split, page 45

## Gasser in danger of suspension

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

More of the iceberg looks about to surface with the imminent disclosure of one positive dope test from the IAAF World Championships in Rome. Sandra Gasser, of Switzerland, has already failed the first test on the urine sample she gave after winning 1,500 metres bronze medal, according to Georg Kennel, the president of the Swiss Athletics Federation.

But while the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) office in London admits that there is an outstanding second sample to deliberate, the name of the athlete concerned will not be released until Monday at the earliest, according to Mike Gee, the IAAF technical director.

Gee has the results of the second test in his London office, but he has to circulate them to members of the doping sub-commission around the world. Gee said: "This subject has been opened up against our desires. Nobody can be named positive until after the second test." But, there can be no doubt that Miss Gasser is the athlete concerned, although she emphatically denies taking anabolic steroids, of which traces were found in her first test sample. She said yesterday: "I have never taken anything. I swear it. I shall fight a ban with all the legal means at my disposal."

Unless there has been some administrative error with the second sample, Miss Gasser would face a two-year ban under the new IAAF regulations. In the experience of Dr David Cowan at the King's College laboratory in London, no second sample in the 20 Year history of dope testing has ever contradicted the first.

## Aouita beaten

Said Aouita's two-year-old undefeated track record was broken when he was beaten in the 3,000 metres steeplechase at the Mediterranean Games in Latakia, Syria. Alessandro Lambruschini, of Italy, won in 8min 19.72sec, with Aouita second in 8min 21.92sec. It was the Moroccan's first defeat in 45 races since he lost to Steve Cram - who then set the world 1,500 metres record - in Nice on July 16, 1985.

## Robson is looking set for a prolonged stay in new role

By Clive White

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, revealed yesterday that he believed Bryan Robson could become the new "Kaiser" of international football in his newly chosen role of sweeper in the United team.

Such a forecast will be given the acid test today when Robson finds himself confronted by Nico Claessen, the prolific Belgian forward and occasional Tottenham Hotspur player. Claessen can play there for his country for 10 years. I think Bryan can do the same job for England."

Bobby Robson, the England manager, will be as interested an onlooker today as Ferguson. The centre back problem position, which appeared to be resolved by the discovery of Tony Adams, of Arsenal, resurfaced in the recent 3-1 defeat by West Germany in Düsseldorf.

Since Ferguson had said only a fortnight earlier that Adams could be the England centre back for the next 30 years it would, perhaps, be wise not to get over-excited about Robson. But his optimism is understandable on both counts.

Throughout his career Robson has been an adaptable type and appears to possess the necessary poise to dominate from the back. "Beckenbauer was a midfield star until he switched to the back four," Ferguson said yesterday. "And he went on to play there for his country for 10 years. I think Bryan can do the same job for England."

Robson is less excited than his manager about his new role, but adopts the professional attitude that it is United who pay his wages, so he does as he is bid. Ferguson said he had discussed the situation with the England manager and that his reasons had been understood.

"I don't think it will affect his England position. He is easily their best player and there is no way they will leave him out. As for us, his new

role brings us organization and stability at the back."

There is still a slim chance that Robson's task could be made even more difficult today if Clive Allen, the most successful finisher in English football, passes a fitness test on a hamstring. Waddle is back, though, to ensure that whatever the new-found solidity of the United defence it will need fluidity, too.

If Old Trafford is going slightly Continental today, then Carrow Road should represent the best of British if Ken Brown, the Norwich City manager, is to be believed.

He described Nottingham Forest, his club's opponents today, as a "breath of fresh air". He said after watching Forest beat Hereford on Wednesday: "If they play like that against us it should be a cracker. They are a breath of fresh air because they play free-flowing football and just get on with the game."

## Festival a glittering spectacle

By Michael Seely

This afternoon's Festival of British Racing at Ascot, with its total of £640,000 added to the six races, is the most valuable programme ever to be staged in this country.

Organized by the Supporters of British Racing, a non-profit-making company under the chairmanship of Sir John Astor, this glittering occasion will provide an ideal curtain-raiser for an eventful nine days in the sport, proceeding from the Highflyer Sales and the October meeting at Newmarket to a climax in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp on Sunday.

Captain Nicholas Beaumont, Ascot's clerk of the course, is making no forecast about the possible attendance at the festival. "It's difficult to guess as people don't book in advance in September. But we hope to get the same sort of crowd as at the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes in July."

Miesque is favourite at 2-1 on to become the equine star of the show in the featured Queen Elizabeth II Stakes with a total of £240,000 in prize-money.

Nicknamed "La concierge" in the Chantilly stables of Francois Boutin because of her bold outlook and inquisitive gaze, Miesque's formidable powers of acceleration have carried her to victory in eight of her 10 starts, including the English and French 1,000 Guineas.

Sonic Lady, last season's champion European miler, may be her principal opponent as the Michael Stoute-trained filly seeks to prevent Miesque from seizing her crown.

Steve Caution, three winners behind Pat Eddery at the end of yesterday's racing, is to partner Miesque, as Freddie Head, the filly's regular rider, has been banned for 15 days.

Supporters of the American-born jockey, aged 27, could have a field day as his other possible winning mounts include Diminuendo and Sauciquero for Henry Cecil in the Hoover Fillies Mile (2.15) and Royal Lodge Stakes (4.35) respectively.

## SPORT IN BRIEF

## McEnroe banned

John McEnroe has been suspended for two months, from September 28 to November 27, and has also been fined \$10,000 (about £6,250). Both penalties arise from four separate violations of the code of conduct during the recent United States championships.

His appeal against the penalties was rejected yesterday by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council, which makes him unavailable to defend his European Community Championship title in Antwerp, from October 26 to November 1.

## Wage dispute

Brian Clough, the Nottingham Forest manager, is considering asking the Norwegian Football Association to pay the wages of Kjell Osvald, his Norwegian midfielder player. Osvald has played only four first-team games for Forest since being signed last season and Clough claims his availability has been limited by international calls.



Clough: seeking payment

## NFL talks

Philadelphia (AP) - Discussions aimed at ending the National Football League players' strike resumed here yesterday, but Jack Donaghy, the management negotiator, said that an agreement could be two months away.

## Hockey boost

English schools hockey has clinched a sponsorship deal worth £20,000 with the Nationwide Anglia Building Society to cover a series of under-16 and under-18 boys' county championships, culminating in a final on May 1.

## Bundini Brown

Drew "Bundini" Brown, who worked as a cornerman for Muhammad Ali, died on Thursday at the Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles. He was 57. Brown joined Ali, then Cassius Clay, in 1963 and worked as assistant trainer to Angelo Dundee until Ali's final defeat, by Trevor Berbick, in 1981.

## IOC backing

Lausanne (AP) - Sports ministers from most Communist countries were behind the International Olympic Committee's attempts to settle the dispute over the hosting of next year's Games in Seoul at a meeting in the Soviet Union last week.

## Team named

Steve Moore, of Margate, the British and European water ski champion, is named in the British team for the world championship in Australia next February, along with Darren Kirkland, of Sealsalter, Kent, the woman's British and European champion Nicky Carpenter, of Stone, Essex, and Lisa Coupland, of Whitstable.

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